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64271 Darmstadt

## Photostable liquid-crystalline medium

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### Photostable liquid-crystalline medium

The present invention relates to a photostable liquid-crystalline medium, to the use thereof for electro-optical purposes, and to displays containing this  
5 medium.

Liquid-crystals are used principally as dielectrics in display devices, since the optical properties of such substances can be modified by an applied voltage. Electro-optical devices based on liquid crystals are extremely well  
10 known to the person skilled in the art and can be based on various effects. Examples of such devices are cells having dynamic scattering, DAP (deformation of aligned phases) cells, guest/host cells, TN cells having a twisted nematic structure, STN (supertwisted nematic) cells, SBE (super-birefringence effect) cells and OMI (optical mode interference) cells. The  
15 commonest display devices are based on the Schadt-Helfrich effect and have a twisted nematic structure.

The liquid-crystal materials must have good chemical and thermal stability and good stability to electric fields and electromagnetic radiation. Furthermore,  
20 the liquid-crystal materials should have low viscosity and produce short addressing times, low threshold voltages and high contrast in the cells.

They should furthermore have a suitable mesophase, for example a  
25 nematic or cholesteric mesophase for the above-mentioned cells, at the usual operating temperatures, i.e. in the broadest possible range above and below room temperature. Since liquid crystals are generally used as mixtures of a plurality of components, it is important that the components are readily miscible with one another. Further properties, such as the  
30 electrical conductivity, the dielectric anisotropy and the optical anisotropy, have to satisfy various requirements depending on the cell type and area of application. For example, materials for cells having a twisted nematic structure should have positive dielectric anisotropy and low electrical conductivity.

For example, for matrix liquid-crystal displays with integrated non-linear elements for switching individual pixels (MLC displays), media having large positive dielectric anisotropy, broad nematic phases, relatively low birefringence, very high specific resistance, good UV and temperature stability and lower vapour pressure are desired.

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Matrix liquid-crystal displays of this type are known. Non-linear elements which can be used for individual switching of the individual pixels are, for example, active elements (i.e. transistors). The term "active matrix" is then 10 used, where a distinction can be made between two types:

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1. MOS (metal oxide semiconductor) or other diodes on a silicon wafer as substrate.
2. Thin-film transistors (TFTs) on a glass plate as substrate.

The use of single-crystal silicon as substrate material restricts the display size, since even modular assembly of various part-displays results in problems at the joins.

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In the case of the more promising type 2, which is preferred, the electro-optical effect used is usually the TN effect. A distinction is made between two technologies: TFTs comprising compound semiconductors, such as, for example, CdSe, or TFTs based on polycrystalline or amorphous silicon. 25 Intensive work is being carried out world-wide on the latter technology.

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The TFT matrix is applied to the inside of one glass plate of the display, while the other glass plate carries the transparent counterelectrode on its inside. Compared with the size of the pixel electrode, the TFT is very small and has virtually no adverse effect on the image. This technology can also be extended to fully colour-capable displays, in which a mosaic of red, green and blue filters is arranged in such a way that a filter element is opposite each switchable pixel.

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The TFT displays usually operate as TN cells with crossed polarisers in transmission and are illuminated from the back.

5       The term MLC displays here covers any matrix display with integrated non-linear elements, i.e., besides the active matrix, also displays with passive elements, such as varistors or diodes (MIM = metal-insulator-metal).

10      MLC displays of this type are particularly suitable for TV applications (for example pocket TVs) or for high-information displays for computer applications (laptops) and in automobile or aircraft construction. Besides problems regarding the angle dependence of the contrast and the response times, difficulties also arise in MLC displays due to insufficiently high specific resistance of the liquid-crystal mixtures [TOGASHI, S., SEKOGUCHI, K., TANABE, H., YAMAMOTO, E., SORIMACHI, K.,  
15      TAJIMA, E., WATANABE, H., SHIMIZU, H., Proc. Eurodisplay 84, Sept. 1984: A 210-288 Matrix LCD Controlled by Double Stage Diode Rings, p. 141 ff, Paris; STROMER, M., Proc. Eurodisplay 84, Sept. 1984: Design of Thin Film Transistors for Matrix Addressing of Television Liquid Crystal Displays, p. 145 ff, Paris]. With decreasing resistance, the contrast of an  
20      MLC display deteriorates, and the problem of after-image elimination may occur. Since the specific resistance of the liquid-crystal mixture generally drops over the life of an MLC display owing to interaction with the interior surfaces of the display, a high (initial) resistance is very important in order to obtain acceptable service lives. In particular in the case of low-volt mixtures, it was hitherto impossible to achieve very high specific resistance values. It is furthermore important that the specific resistance exhibits the smallest possible increase with increasing temperature and the lowest possible sensitivity on heating and/or UV exposure. The low-temperature properties of the mixtures from the prior art are also particularly disadvantageous. It is demanded that no crystallisation and/or smectic phases  
25      occur, even at low temperatures, and the temperature dependence of the viscosity is as low as possible. The MLC displays from the prior art do not meet today's requirements.  
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There thus continues to be a great demand for MLC displays having very high specific resistance at the same time as a large working-temperature range, short response times even at low temperatures and low threshold voltage which do not have these disadvantages, or only do so to a reduced extent.

Numerous liquid-crystal mixtures used in MLC displays comprise compounds having limited photostability. Although these compounds are generally stable to natural light – even over an extended period – and can usually also be exposed to UV irradiation for some time without this resulting in decomposition of individual mixture constituents, exposure of the mixtures to, in particular, intense UV radiation for an extended period can result, however, in undesired photochemical processes which partially decompose the compounds of limited photostability and can thus modify the liquid-crystal mixtures in their composition and in their properties in a sensitive manner or even render them unusable. This problem has intensified recently through the fact that the so-called “one-drop filling method” [H. Kamiya, K. Tajima, K. Toriumi, K. Terada, H. Inoue, T. Yokoue, N. Shimizu, T. Kobayashi, S. Odahara, G. Hougham, C. Cai, J.H. Glownia, R.J. von Gutfeld, R. John, S.-C. Alan Lien, *SID 01 Digest* (2001), 1354-1357], during the use of which the display cells filled with a liquid-crystal mixture are irradiated with UV light for an extended period in order to effect polymerisation of the monomers used as sealing agent (for example acrylates or epoxides) in order to seal the cells, is now being employed in the manufacture of liquid-crystal displays.

Compounds having a  $-(CH_2)_2-$ ,  $-COO-$ ,  $-CH=CH-$ ,  $-CF=CH-$ ,  $-CH=CF-$ ,  $-CF=CF-$ ,  $-C\equiv C-$  or  $-CF_2O-$  link between two ring constituents of the molecule, which are frequently apparently mesogenic, are comparatively sensitive to UV radiation. It is therefore also desirable to improve the photostability of liquid-crystal mixtures without impairing their above-mentioned properties which are necessary, in particular, for use in MLC displays.

In TN (Schadt-Helfrich) cells, media are desired which facilitate the following advantages in the cells:

- extended nematic phase range (in particular down to low temperatures)
- 5                    - a long shelf life, even at extremely low temperatures
- the ability to switch at extremely low temperatures (outdoor use, automobile, avionics)
- 10                  - increased resistance to UV radiation (longer life).

The media available from the prior art do not allow these advantages to be  
15                  achieved while simultaneously retaining the other parameters.

In the case of supertwisted (STN) cells, media are desired which enable  
greater multiplexability and/or lower threshold voltages and/or broader  
nematic phase ranges (in particular at low temperatures). To this end, a  
20                  further widening of the available parameter latitude (clearing point, smectic-nematic transition or melting point, viscosity, dielectric parameters,  
elastic parameters) is urgently desired.

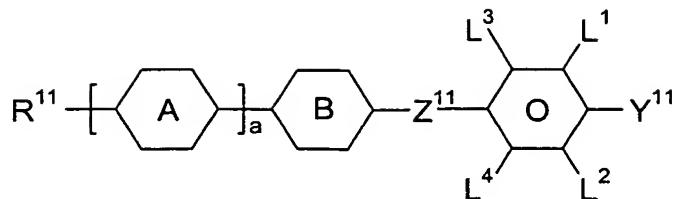
The invention is based on the object of providing media, in particular for  
25                  MLC, TN or STN displays of this type, which do not have the above-  
mentioned disadvantages, or only do so to a reduced extent, and  
preferably at the same time have very low threshold voltages and at the  
same time high values for the voltage holding ratio (VHR) and have  
improved stability to UV radiation.

30                  It has now been found that this object can be achieved if media according  
to the invention are used in displays.

The invention thus relates to a liquid-crystalline medium comprising  
35                  - at least one compound of the formula I

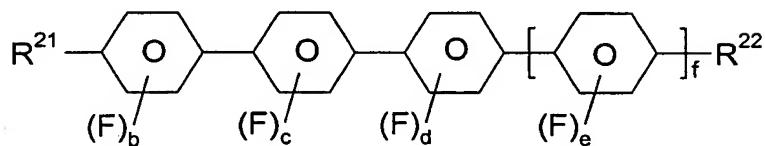
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and  
- at least one compound of the formula II



I

II

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in which

$L^1$ ,  $L^2$ ,  $L^3$  and  $L^4$  are each, independently of one another, H or F;

$R^{11}$  is H, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where, in addition, one or more  $CH_2$  groups in these radicals may each be replaced, independently of one another, by  $-C\equiv C-$ ,  $-CH=CH-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-CO-O-$  or  $-O-CO-$  in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another;

$R^{21}$  and  $R^{22}$  are each, independently of one another, H, Cl, F, CN,  $SF_5$ , SCN, NCS, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where, in addition, one or more  $CH_2$  groups in these radicals each may be replaced, independently of one another, by  $-C\equiv C-$ ,  $-CH=CH-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-CO-O-$  or  $-O-CO-$  in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another;

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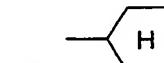
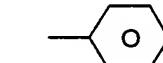
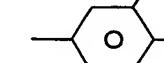
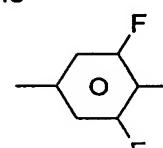
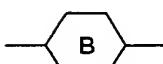
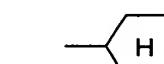
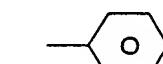
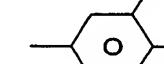
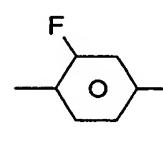
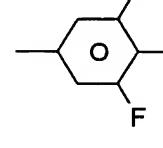
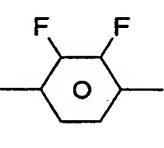
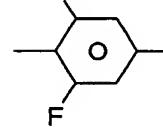
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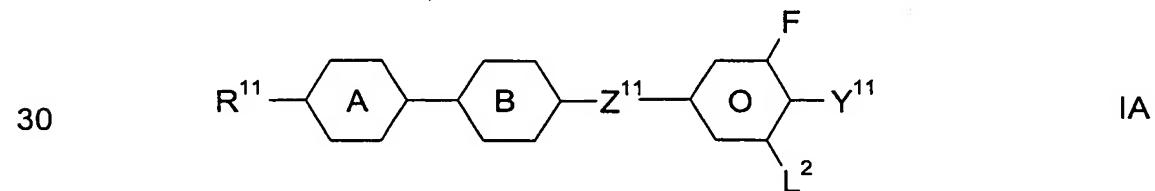
$Y^{11}$  is F, Cl, CN,  $SF_5$ , SCN, NCS, a halogenated alkyl radical, a halogenated alkenyl radical, a halogenated alkoxy radical or a halogenated alkenyloxy radical, each having up to 6 carbon atoms;

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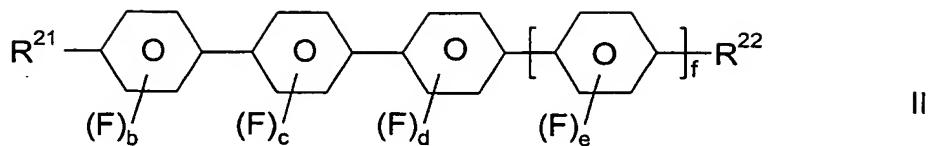
- 20 Z<sup>11</sup> is a single bond, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH=CH-, -CH=CF-,  
 -CF=CH-, -CF=CF-, -C≡C-, -COO-, -OCO-, -CF<sub>2</sub>O- or  
 -OCF<sub>2</sub>-;
- 25 a and f, independently of one another, are 0 or 1;  
 b, c, d and e are each, independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2;
- 30  is , ,  or  
 ; and
- 35  is , , ,  
, ,  or  


- Particular preference is given to a liquid-crystalline medium according to  
 25 the invention comprising  
 - at least one compound of the formula IA



- and  
 - at least one compound of the formula II

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in which

 $\text{L}^2$  is H or F;

10  $\text{R}^{11}$  is H, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where, in addition, one or more  $\text{CH}_2$  groups in these radicals may each be replaced, independently of one another, by  $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{CO-O-}$  or  $-\text{O-CO-}$  in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another;

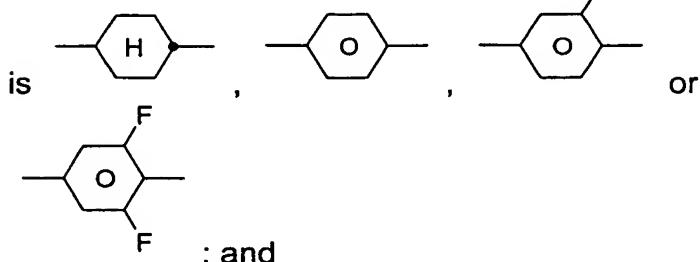
15  $\text{R}^{21}$  and  $\text{R}^{22}$  are each, independently of one another, H, Cl, F, CN,  $\text{SF}_5$ , SCN, NCS, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where, in addition, one or more  $\text{CH}_2$  groups in these radicals may each be replaced, independently of one another, by  $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{CO-O-}$  or  $-\text{O-CO-}$  in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another;

20  $\text{Y}^{11}$  is F, Cl, CN,  $\text{SF}_5$ , SCN, NCS, a halogenated alkyl radical, a halogenated alkenyl radical, a halogenated alkoxy radical or a halogenated alkenyloxy radical, each having up to 6 carbon atoms;

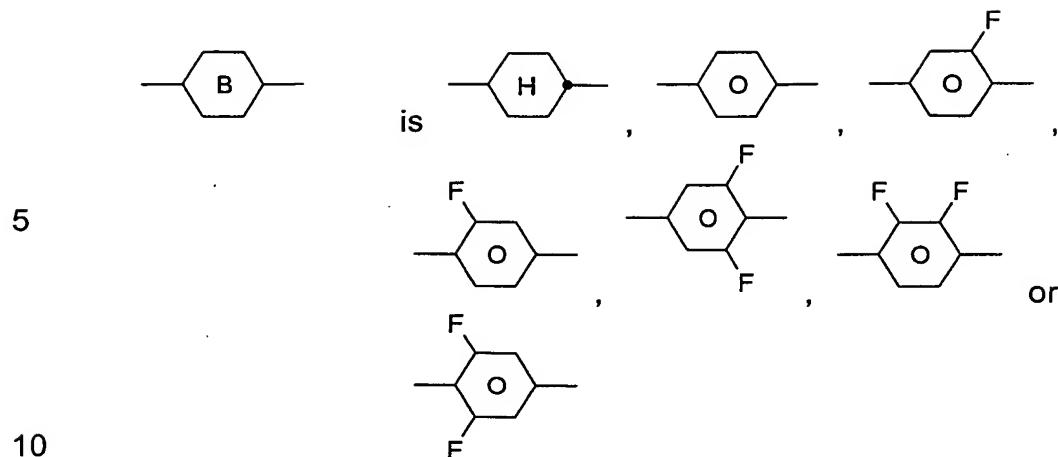
25  $\text{Z}^{11}$  is a single bond,  $-\text{COO-}$  or  $-\text{CF}_2\text{O-}$ ;

f is 0 or 1;

b, c, d and e are each, independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2;



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(If  $Z^{11}$  in the formula I or IA is a single bond and f in the formula II is zero, these compounds of the formula I or IA on the one hand and of the formula II on the other hand which are present in the medium according to the invention are selected in such a way that they are not identical.)

It is preferred for the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention to form the basis of a mixture of polar compounds of positive dielectric anisotropy or to be a constituent of such a mixture. The compounds of the formulae I and II have a broad range of applications. Depending on the choice of substituents, these compounds can either be used as base materials of which liquid-crystalline media are predominantly composed; however, it is also possible to add compounds of the formulae I and II to liquid-crystalline base materials from other classes of compound in order, for example, to modify the dielectric and/or optical anisotropy of a dielectric of this type and/or to optimise its threshold voltage and/or its viscosity and in particular to improve its photostability.

The liquid-crystalline medium of the present invention comprising the compounds of the formulae I and II proves to be particularly advantageous with respect to the UV stability of liquid-crystal mixtures.

In the pure state, the compounds of the formulae I and II are colourless and form liquid-crystalline mesophases in a temperature range which is favourably located for electro-optical use.

If R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> and/or R<sup>22</sup> is an alkyl radical and/or an alkoxy radical (i.e. an alkyl radical in which (at least) the -CH<sub>2</sub>- group via which R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> or R<sup>22</sup> respectively is bonded to the ring in question has been replaced by O), this  
5 may be straight-chain or branched. It is preferably straight-chain, has 1, 2,  
3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 carbon atoms and accordingly is preferably methyl, ethyl,  
propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy,  
pentoxy, hexyloxy or heptyloxy, furthermore octyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl,  
10 dodecyl, tridecyl, tetradecyl, pentadecyl, octyloxy, nonyloxy, decyloxy,  
undecyloxy, dodecyloxy, tridecyloxy or tetradecyloxy.

Oxaalkyl - i.e. an alkyl chain in which at least one CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by O, but where the oxygen atom is not bonded directly to the ring substituted by R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> or R<sup>22</sup> - is preferably straight-chain 2-oxapropyl  
15 (= methoxymethyl), ethoxymethyl or 3-oxabutyl (= 2-methoxyethyl), 2-, 3- or 4-oxapentyl, 2-, 3-, 4- or 5-oxahexyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-oxaheptyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-oxaoctyl, 2-, 3-, -4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-oxanonyl, or 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-oxadecyl.

20 If R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> and/or R<sup>22</sup> is an alkyl radical in which one CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by -CH=CH-, this may be straight-chain or branched. A radical of this type is also known as an alkenyl radical. It is preferably straight-chain and has from 2 to 10 carbon atoms. Accordingly, it is particularly preferably vinyl, prop-1- or -2-enyl, but-1-, -2- or -3-enyl, pent-1-, -2-, -3- or -4-enyl,  
25 hex-1-, -2-, -3-, -4- or -5-enyl, hept-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5- or -6-enyl, oct-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6- or -7-enyl, non-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6-, -7- or -8-enyl, or dec-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6-, -7-, -8- or -9-enyl. If the alkenyl group can have the E or Z configuration, the E configuration (trans configuration) is generally preferred.

30 If R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> and/or R<sup>22</sup> is an alkyl radical in which one CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by -O- and one has been replaced by -CO-, these are preferably adjacent. These thus contain an acyloxy group -CO-O- or an oxycarbonyl group -O-CO. These are preferably straight-chain and have from 2 to 6  
35 carbon atoms. Accordingly, they are in particular acetoxy, propionyloxy,

butyryloxy, pentanoyloxy, hexanoyloxy, acetoxyethyl, propionyloxy-methyl, butyryloxymethyl, pentanoyloxymethyl, 2-acetoxyethyl, 2-propionyl-oxyethyl, 2-butyryloxyethyl, 3-acetoxypropyl, 3-propionyloxypropyl, 4-acetoxybutyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, 5-butoxycarbonyl, pentoxy carbonyl, methoxycarbonylmethyl, ethoxy-carbonylmethyl, propoxycarbonylmethyl, butoxycarbonylmethyl, 2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 2-(ethoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 2-(propoxycarbonyl)-ethyl, 3-(methoxycarbonyl)propyl, 3-(ethoxycarbonyl)propyl or 4-(methoxycarbonyl)butyl.

10 If R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> and/or R<sup>22</sup> is an alkyl radical in which one CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by unsubstituted or substituted -CH=CH- and an adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by CO, CO-O or O-CO, this may be straight-chain or branched. It is preferably straight-chain and has from 4 to 12 carbon atoms. Accordingly, it is in particular acryloyloxyethyl, 2-acryloyloxyethyl, 3-acryloyloxypropyl, 4-acryloyloxybutyl, 5-acryloyloxypentyl, 6-acryloyloxyhexyl, 7-acryloyloxyheptyl, 8-acryloyloxyoctyl, 9-acryloyloxy-nonyl, 10-acryloyloxydecyl, methacryloyloxyethyl, 2-methacryloyloxyethyl, 15 3-methacryloyloxypropyl, 4-methacryloyloxybutyl, 5-methacryloyloxypentyl, 6-methacryloyloxyhexyl, 7-methacryloyloxyheptyl, 8-methacryloyloxyoctyl or 20 9-methacryloyloxy-nonyl.

If R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> and/or R<sup>22</sup> is an alkyl, alkoxy or alkenyl radical which is at least monosubstituted by halogen, this radical is preferably straight-chain, and 25 halogen is preferably F or Cl. In the case of polysubstitution, halogen is preferably F. The resultant radicals also include perfluorinated radicals. In the case of monosubstitution, the fluorine or chlorine substituent may be in any desired position, but is preferably in the  $\omega$ -position. Particular preference is given to -CF<sub>3</sub>, -CHF<sub>2</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>F, -CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, -CHFCHF<sub>2</sub>, -CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, 30 -OCF<sub>3</sub>, -OCHF<sub>2</sub>, -OCH<sub>2</sub>F and -CF=CF<sub>2</sub>.

Compounds containing branched wing groups R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>21</sup> and/or R<sup>22</sup> may occasionally be of importance owing to better solubility in the usual liquid-crystalline base materials, but in particular as chiral dopants if they are

optically active. Smectic compounds of this type are suitable as components of ferroelectric materials.

5 Branched groups of this type preferably contain not more than one chain branch. Preferred branched radicals R are isopropyl, 2-butyl (= 1-methylpropyl), isobutyl (= 2-methylpropyl), 2-methylbutyl, isopentyl (= 3-methylbutyl), 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2-ethylhexyl, 2-propylpentyl, iso-  
10 propoxy, 2-methylpropoxy, 2-methylbutoxy, 3-methylbutoxy, 2-methylpentoxy, 3-methylpentoxy, 2-ethylhexyloxy, 1-methylhexyloxy and 1-methylheptyloxy.

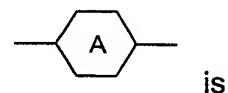
If  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{21}$  and/or  $R^{22}$  is an alkyl radical in which two or more  $\text{CH}_2$  groups have been replaced by -O- and/or -CO-O-, this may be straight-chain or branched. It is preferably branched and has from 3 to 12 carbon atoms.  
15 Accordingly, it is in particular biscarboxymethyl, 2,2-biscarboxyethyl, 3,3-biscarboxypropyl, 4,4-biscarboxybutyl, 5,5-biscarboxypentyl, 6,6-bis-carboxyhexyl, 7,7-biscarboxyheptyl, 8,8-biscarboxyoctyl, 9,9-biscarboxynonyl, 10,10-biscarboxydecyl, bis(methoxycarbonyl)methyl, 2,2-bis-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 3,3-bis(methoxycarbonyl)propyl, 4,4-bis(methoxy-  
20 carbonyl)butyl, 5,5-bis(methoxycarbonyl)pentyl, 6,6-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-hexyl, 7,7-bis(methoxycarbonyl)heptyl, 8,8-bis(methoxycarbonyl)octyl, bis(ethoxycarbonyl)methyl, 2,2-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 3,3-bis(ethoxy-  
carbonyl)propyl, 4,4-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)butyl or 5,5-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)-pentyl.

25  $R^{21}$  and  $R^{22}$  may also, independently of one another, be F, Cl, CN,  $\text{SF}_5$ , SCN or NCS, in particular F or Cl.

If  $Y^{11}$  is a halogenated alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy or alkenyloxy radical, this  
30 radical may be straight-chain or branched. The radical is preferably straight-chain, and is substituted by F or Cl. In the case of polysubstitution, halogen is in particular F. The substituted radicals also include perfluorinated radicals. In the case of monosubstitution, the halogen substituent may be in any desired position, preferably in the  $\omega$ -position.  $Y^{11}$  is particularly  
35 preferably F, Cl,  $\text{CF}_3$ ,  $\text{OCHF}_2$  or  $\text{OCF}_3$ , in particular F.

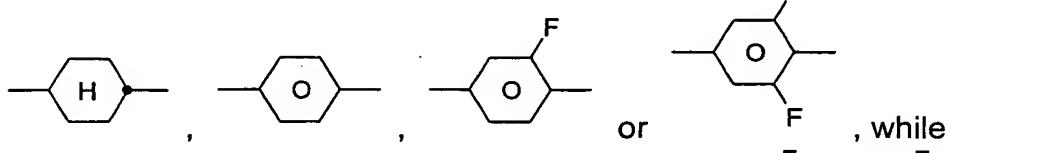
$Z^{11}$  is a single bond or is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CF}-$ ,  $-\text{CF}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{CF}=\text{CF}-$ ,  $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ ,  $-\text{COO}-$ ,  $-\text{OCO}-$ ,  $-\text{CF}_2\text{O}-$  or  $-\text{OCF}_2-$ .  $Z^{11}$  is preferably a single bond or is  $-\text{COO}-$  or  $-\text{CF}_2\text{O}-$ ;  $Z^{11}$  is particularly preferably  $-\text{CF}_2\text{O}-$ .

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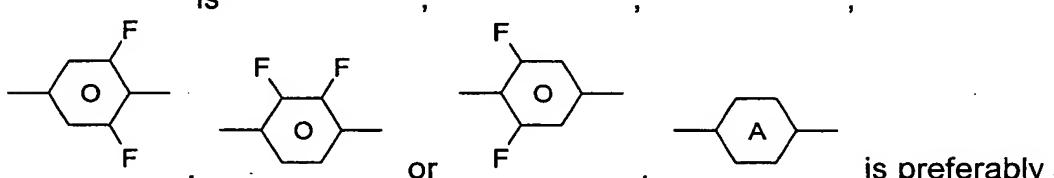


In the compounds of the formula I and of the formula IA,

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1,4-cyclohexylene or 1,4-phenylene ring, while

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If  $f$  in the formula II is zero, the compounds of the formula II are terphenyls, which – depending on the meaning of  $b$ ,  $c$  and  $d$  – may also carry one or more fluorine substituents. If, by contrast,  $f$  in the formula II is 1, the compounds of the formula II are in the form of quaterphenyls, which may

30

themselves – depending on the meaning of  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $d$  and  $e$  – be monosubstituted or polysubstituted by fluorine. It is also possible for the liquid-crystalline media according to the invention simultaneously to comprise at least one terphenyl and one quaterphenyl of the formula II.

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The media according to the invention preferably comprise either terphenyls of the formula II ( $f = 0$ ) or quaterphenyls of the formula II ( $f = 1$ ). If  $f = 0$ , at

$a$  in the formula I can be 0 or 1.  $a$  is particularly preferably 1.

- 14 -

least one or two of b, c and d is/are preferably 1 or 2. If f = 1, e for compounds of the formula II is preferably 0, i.e. the corresponding phenyl ring is not substituted by F, while at least two of b, c and d are preferably 1 or 2. In a preferred embodiment of the invention, b, c, d and e are selected  
5 in such a way that  $b + c + d + e \geq 3$ ; the sum of the lateral fluorine substituents of compounds of the formula II is particularly preferably 3, 4, 5 or 6.

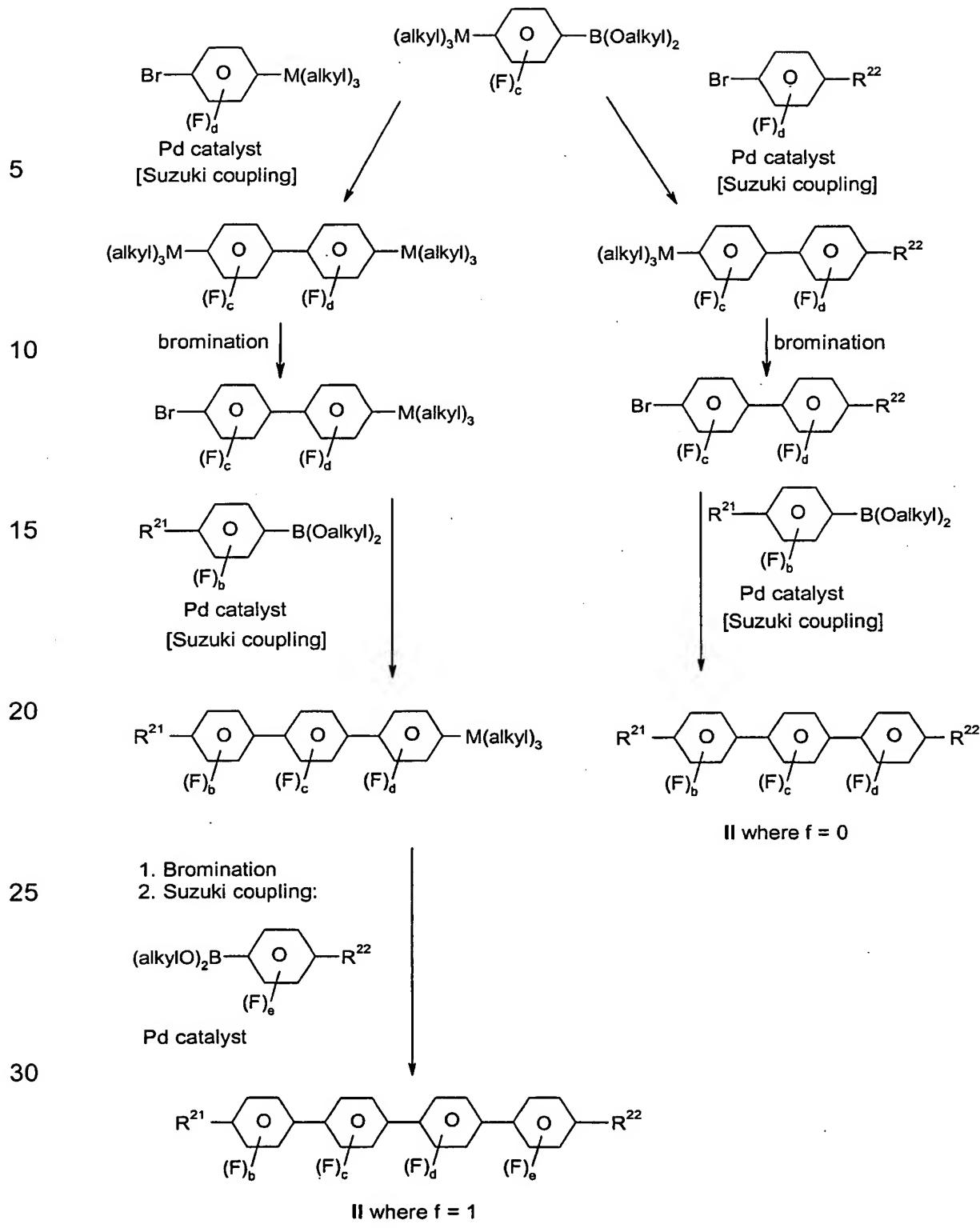
The compounds of the formulae I and II are prepared by methods known per se, as described in the literature (for example in the standard works, such as Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie [Methods of Organic Chemistry], Georg-Thieme-Verlag, Stuttgart), to be precise under reaction conditions which are known and suitable for the said reactions.  
10 Use can also be made here of variants which are known per se, but are not mentioned here in greater detail.  
15

The compounds of the formula II can, for example, also be built up by Suzuki cross-coupling – which can also be carried out consecutively – of corresponding aromatic boronic acids or boronic acid esters with suitably  
20 substituted phenyl compounds. Scheme 1 shows by way of example synthetic routes for the preparation of compounds of the formula II via Suzuki cross-coupling. R<sup>21</sup>, R<sup>22</sup>, b, c, d and e here are as defined above for the formula II. M is Si, Ge or Sn. Further preparation processes are described, inter alia, in German Patent Application 10211597.4 and  
25 European Patent Application 03003811.1.

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35 Scheme 1

- The invention also relates to electro-optical displays (in particular STN or MLC displays having two plane-parallel outer plates which, together with a frame, form a cell, integrated non-linear elements for switching individual pixels on the outer plates, and a nematic liquid-crystal mixture of positive dielectric anisotropy and high specific resistance located in the cell) which contain media of this type, and to the use of these media for electro-optical purposes.
- 5
- 10 The liquid-crystal mixtures according to the invention enable a significant broadening of the available parameter latitude. The achievable combinations of clearing point, viscosity at low temperature, thermal and UV stability and dielectric anisotropy far exceed previous materials from the prior art.
- 15 In particular, the UV stability of the liquid-crystal media according to the invention is significantly improved compared with the known materials of the prior art, with the further desired or necessary parameters generally not only not being impaired, but likewise being significantly improved.
- 20 Thus, in liquid-crystalline mixtures comprising the liquid-crystal medium according to the invention, a smaller drop in the voltage holding ratio (VHR) [S. Matsumoto et al., *Liquid Crystals* 5, 1320 (1989); K. Niwa et al., Proc. SID Conference, San Francisco, June 1984, p. 304 (1984); G. Weber et al., *Liquid Crystals* 5, 1381 (1989)] after UV irradiation is
- 25 observed than in the case of conventional mixtures. A comparable situation also applies to the change in the specific resistance (SR) of the mixtures as a consequence of UV treatment: liquid-crystal mixtures which comprise the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention have a significantly higher specific resistance after UV treatment and prove to be
- 30 less radiation-sensitive than mixtures without the medium according to the invention.
- 35 Liquid-crystal mixtures whose photostability may be reduced after addition of a compound of the formula I where  $Z^{11} = -(CH_2)_2-, -COO-, -OCO-, -CH=CH-, -CF=CH-, -CH=CF-, -CF=CF-, -C\equiv C-, -OCF_2- \text{ or } -CF_2O-$  also

exhibit significantly improved UV stability if, besides the compound (or compounds) of the formula I (or IA), at least one compound of the formula II as defined above is employed in these mixtures.

- 5      The combination of the compounds of the formulae I and II seems to influence the various parameters of relevance for use in electro-optical displays in their combination very much better than known materials from the prior art.
- 10     The mixtures according to the invention are preferably suitable as TN-TFT mixtures for notebook PC applications with 3.3 and 2.5 V drivers. They can also be used as TFT mixtures for projection applications, both in transmissive and in reflective mode.
- 15     The requirement for a high clearing point, a nematic phase at low temperature and a high  $\Delta\epsilon$  has hitherto only been achieved to an inadequate extent. The liquid-crystal mixtures according to the invention, while retaining the nematic phase down to -20°C and preferably down to -30°C, particularly preferably down to -40°C, enable a clearing point above 60°C, preferably above 65°C, particularly preferably above 70°C, simultaneously usually dielectric anisotropy values  $\Delta\epsilon$  of  $\geq 6$ , preferably  $\geq 8$ , and a high value for the specific resistance to be achieved, enabling excellent STN and MLC displays to be obtained. In particular, the mixtures are characterised by low operating voltages. The TN thresholds are below 2.0 V, preferably below 1.5 V, particularly preferably < 1.3 V.
- 20
- 25

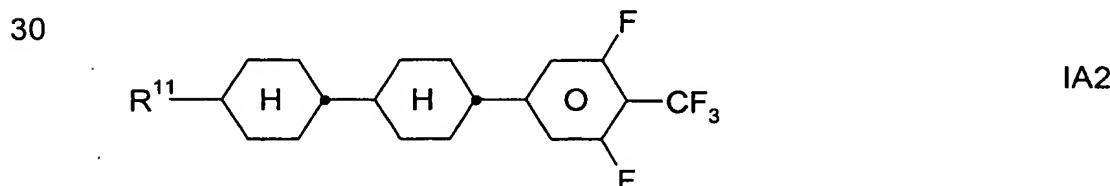
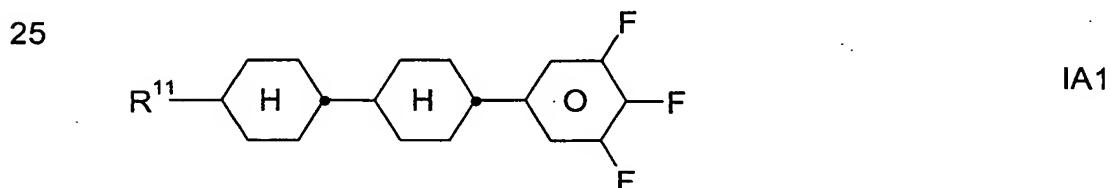
- 30     It goes without saying that, through a suitable choice of the components of the mixtures according to the invention, it is also possible for higher clearing points (for example above 110°) to be achieved at a higher threshold voltage or lower clearing points to be achieved at lower threshold voltages with retention of the other advantageous properties. At viscosities correspondingly increased only slightly, it is likewise possible to obtain mixtures having greater  $\Delta\epsilon$  and thus lower thresholds. The MLC displays according to the invention preferably operate at the first Gooch and Tarry transmission minimum [C.H. Gooch and H.A. Tarry, Electron. Lett. 10, 2-4, 1974;
- 35

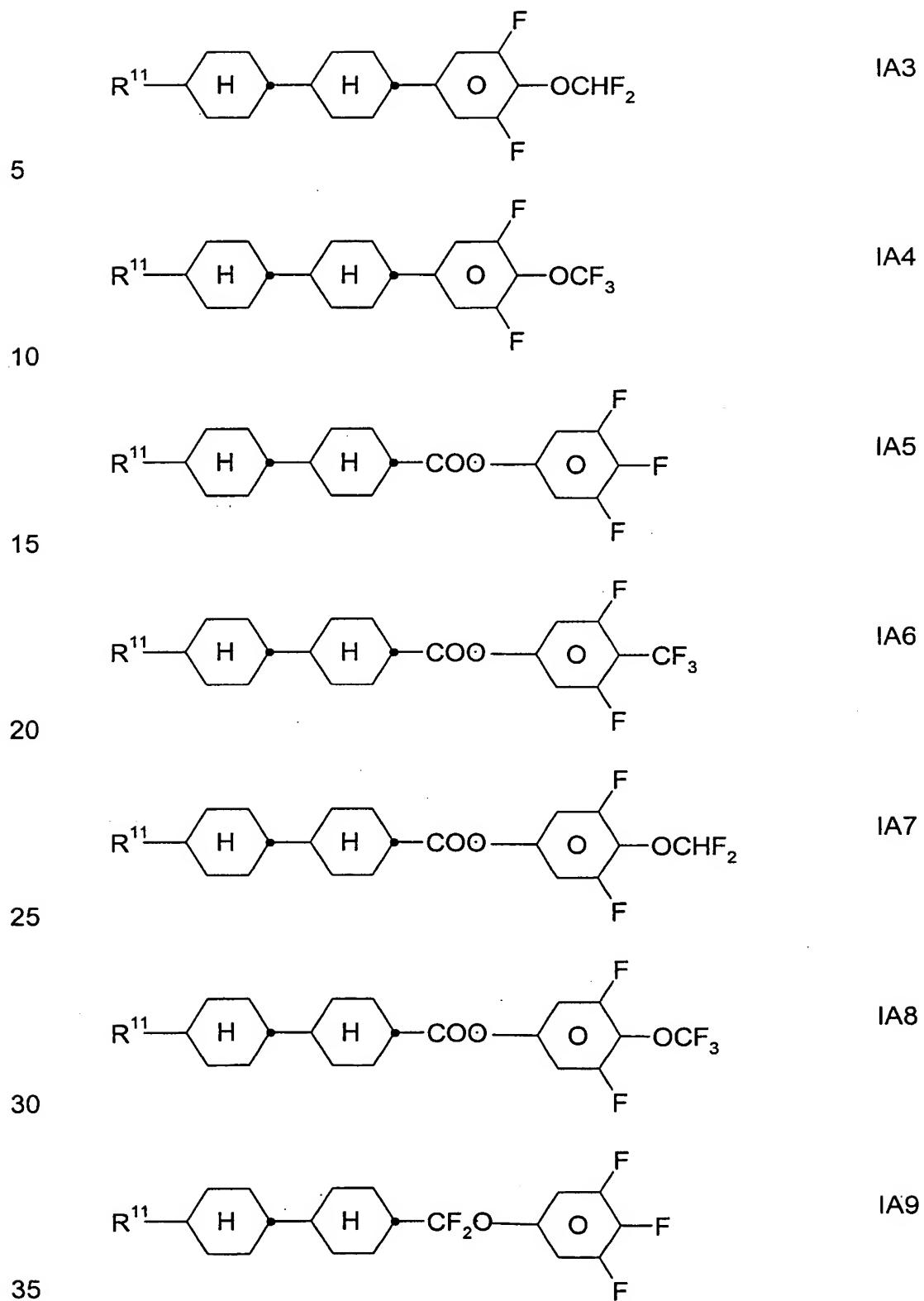
C.H. Gooch and H.A. Tarry, Appl. Phys., Vol. 8, 1575-1584, 1975] are used, where, besides particularly favourable electro-optical properties, such as, for example, high steepness of the characteristic line and low angle dependence of the contrast (German Patent 30 22 818), a lower dielectric anisotropy is sufficient at the same threshold voltage as in an analogous display at the second minimum. This enables very high specific resistances to be achieved using the mixtures according to the invention at the first minimum. Through a suitable choice of the individual components and their proportions by weight, the person skilled in the art is able to set the birefringence necessary for a pre-specified layer thickness of the MLC display using simple routine methods.

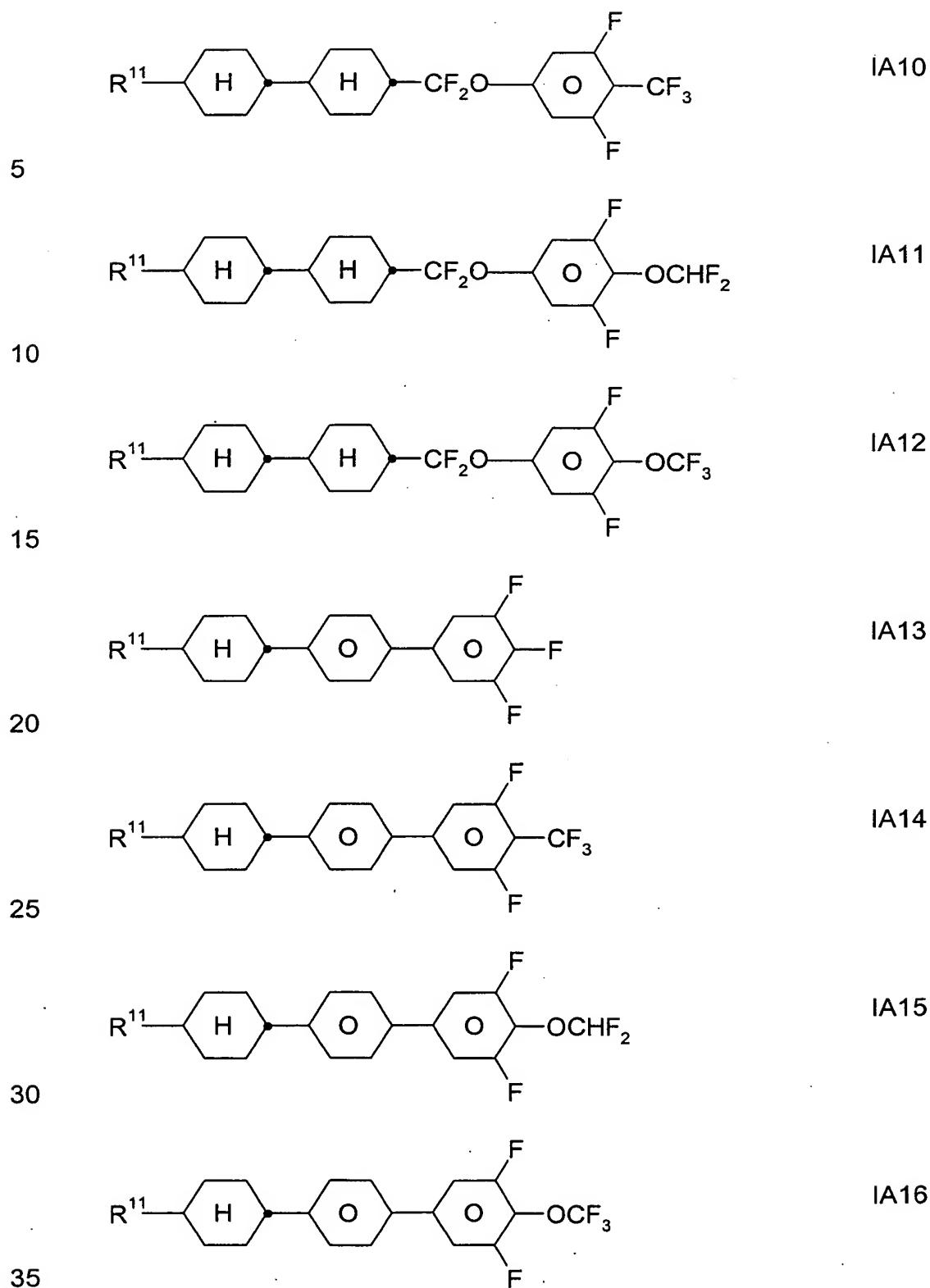
The nematic phase range is preferably at least 90°C, in particular at least 100°C. This range preferably extends at least from -20° to +80°C.

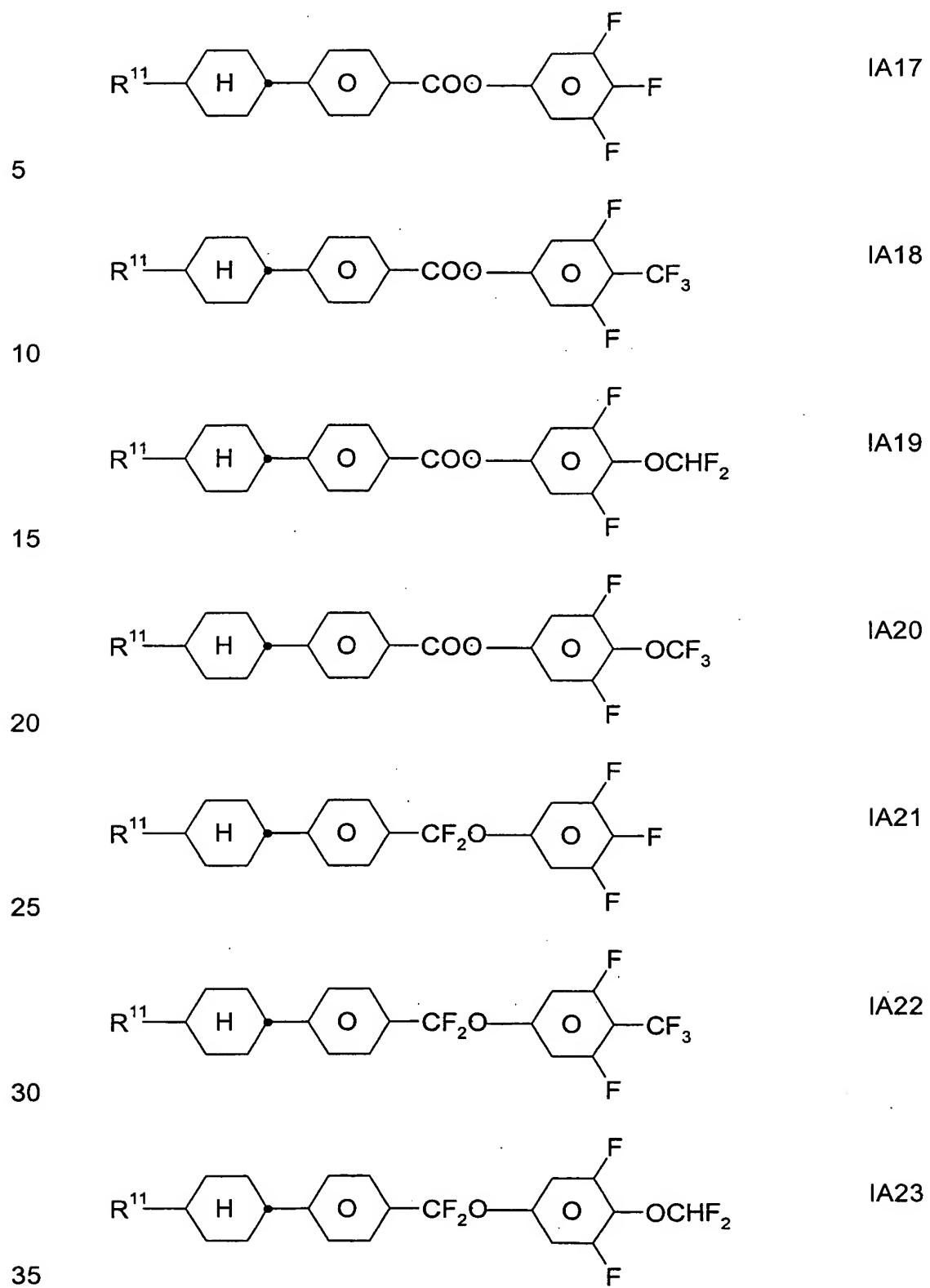
A short response time is desired in liquid-crystal displays. This applies in particular to displays which are capable of video reproduction. For displays of this type, response times (total:  $t_{on} + t_{off}$ ) of at most 16 ms are required. The upper limit of the response time is determined by the image refresh frequency.

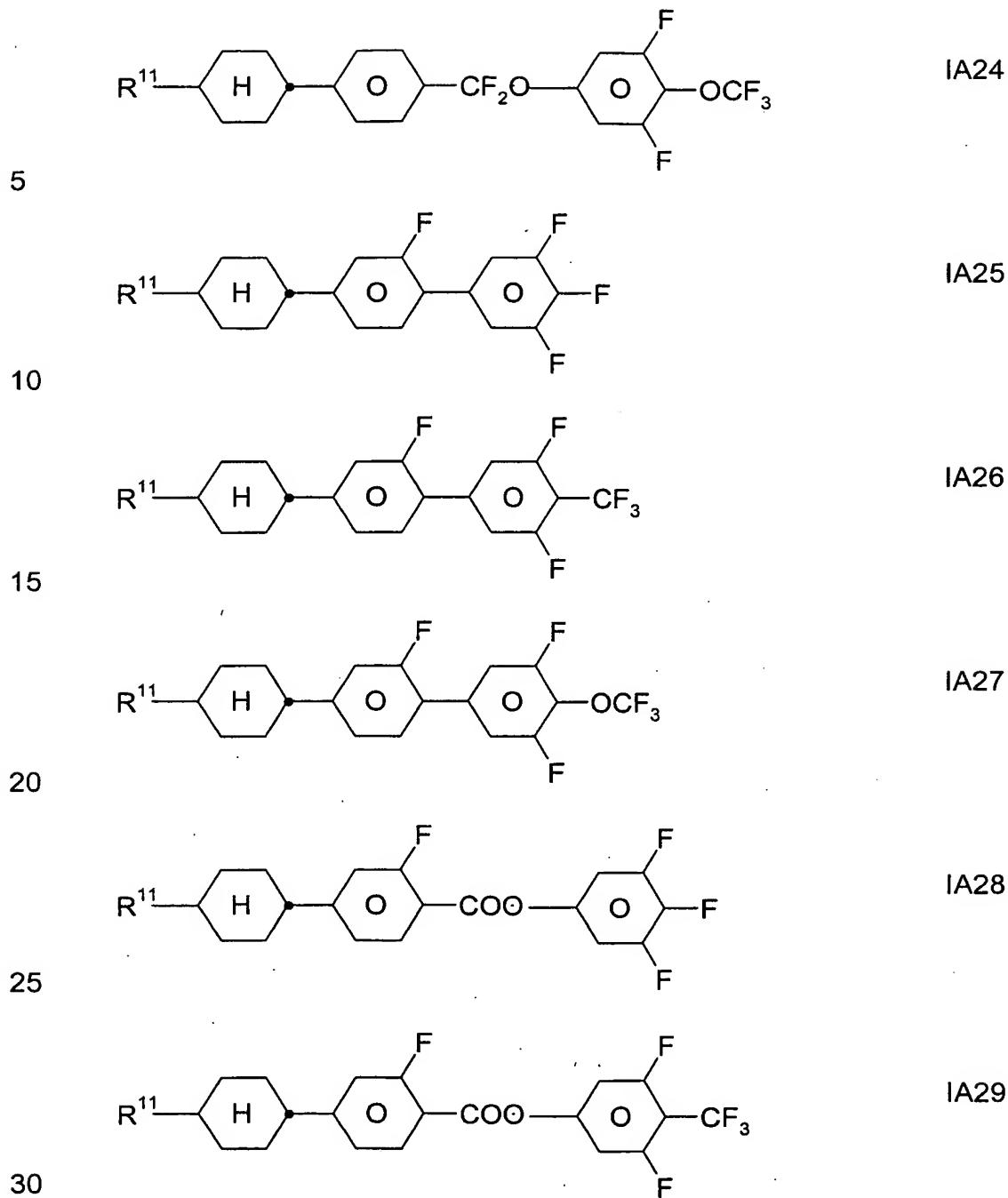
The formula I preferably covers compounds of the formula IA, in particular the following compounds:

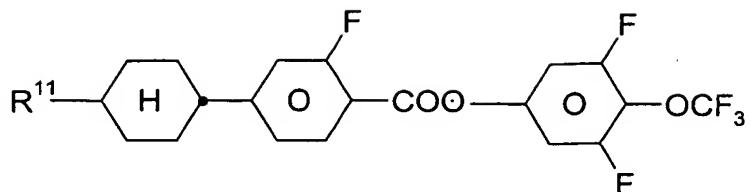




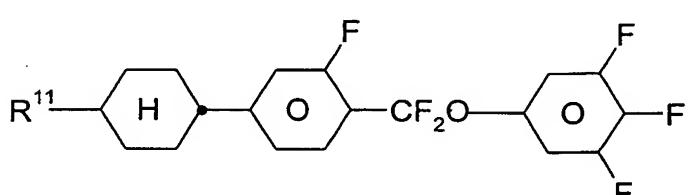




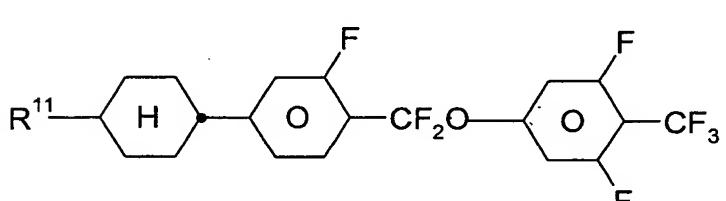




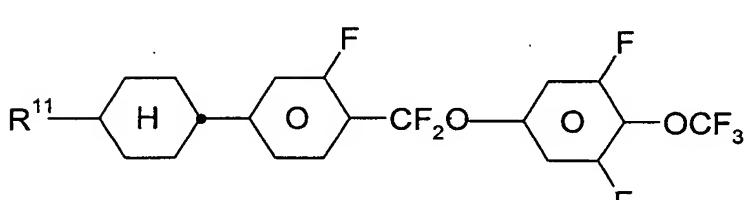
IA30



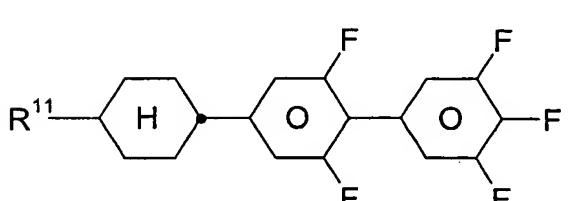
IA31



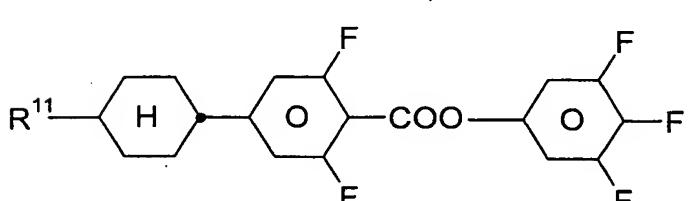
IA32



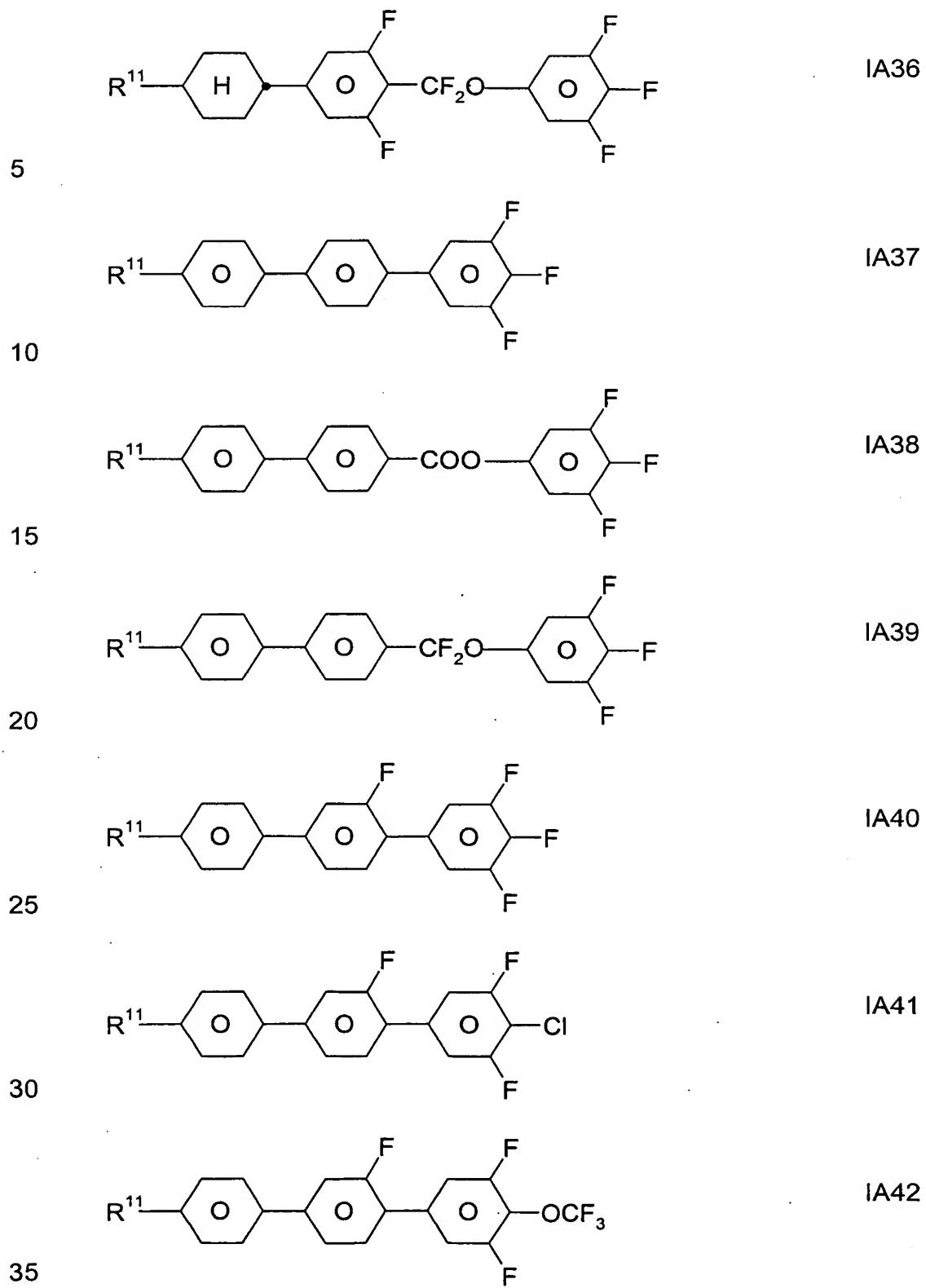
IA33

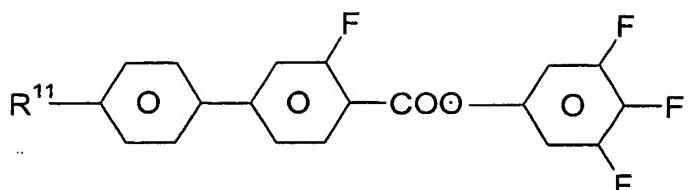


IA34

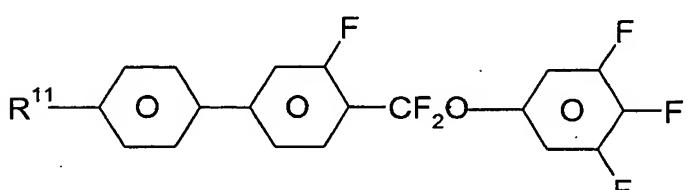


IA35

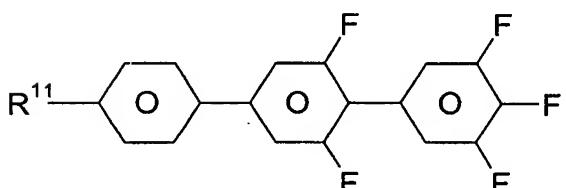




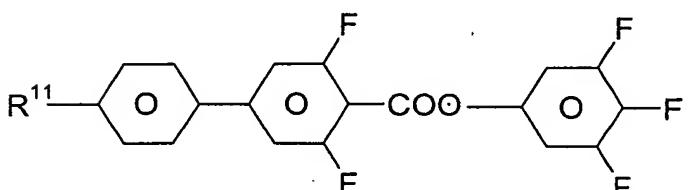
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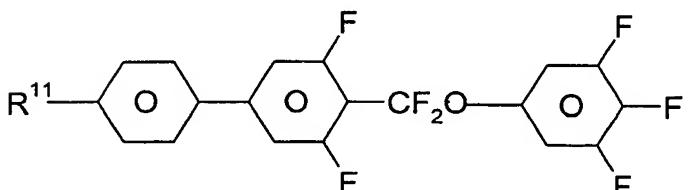
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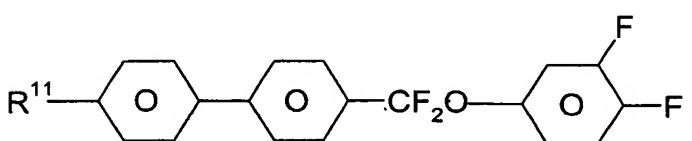
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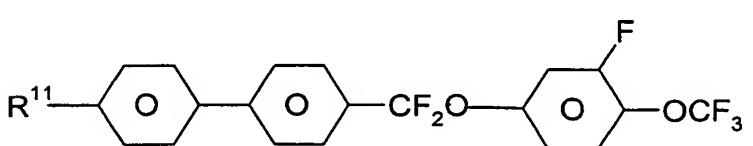
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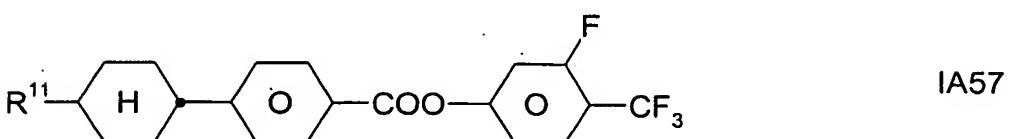
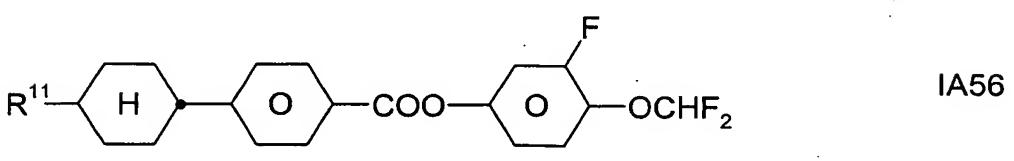
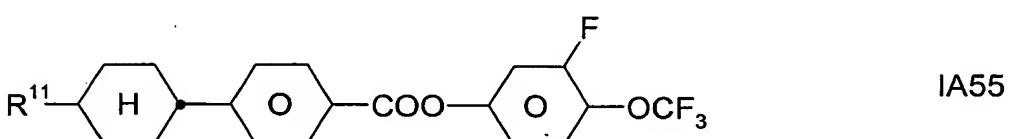
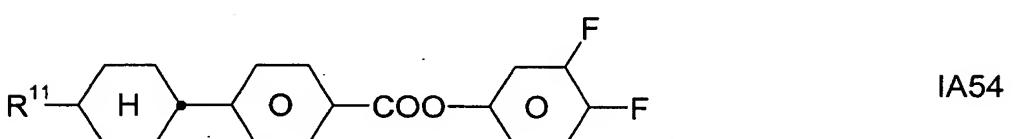
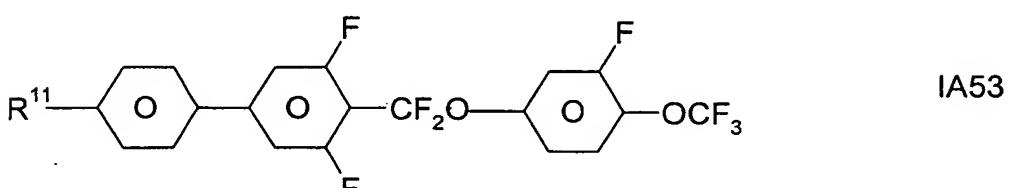
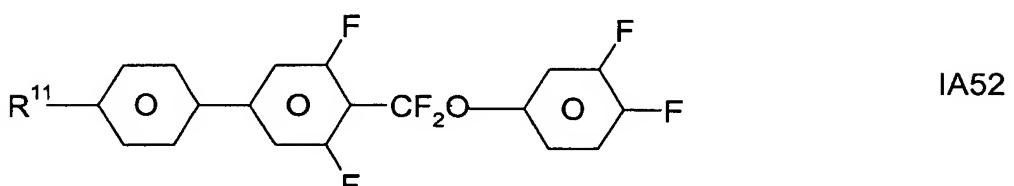
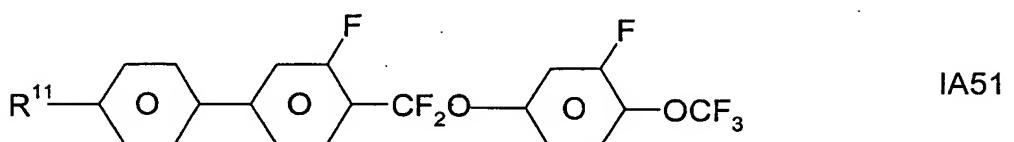
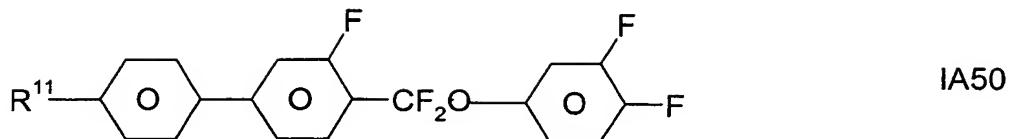


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IA49

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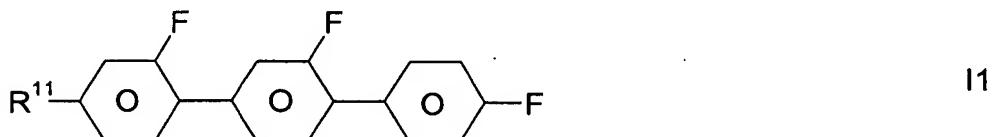
		IA58
5		IA59
10		IA60
15		IA61
20		IA62
		IA63
25		IA64

30 in which R¹¹ is as defined above for the formulae I and IA. R¹¹ is preferably CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>, n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH,  
CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CH or 3-alkenyl (i.e. an alkenyl radical which has the C=C double bond in the 3-position, such as, for example, in CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-), in particular C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> or n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>.

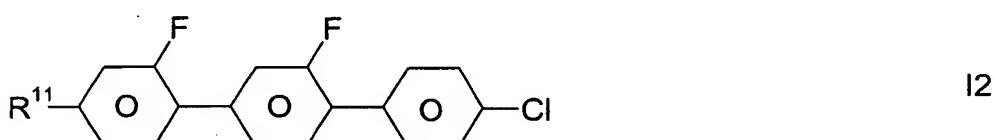
Preference is given to media according to the invention which comprise at least one compound of the formulae IA1, IA5, IA9, IA17, IA40, IA41, IA42, IA47, IA52 and/or IA53, particularly preferably in each case at least one compound of the formula IA47, particular preference being given to the compounds in which R<sup>11</sup> is a straight-chain alkyl radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms.

Further preferred compounds of the formula I are compounds of the formulae I1 to I8:

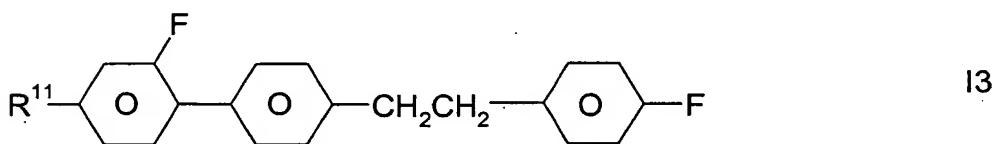
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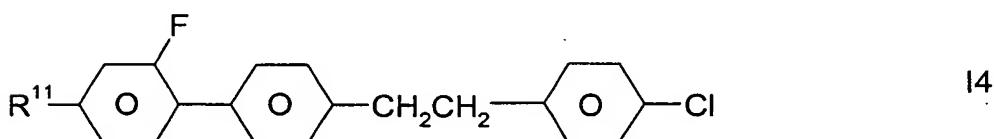
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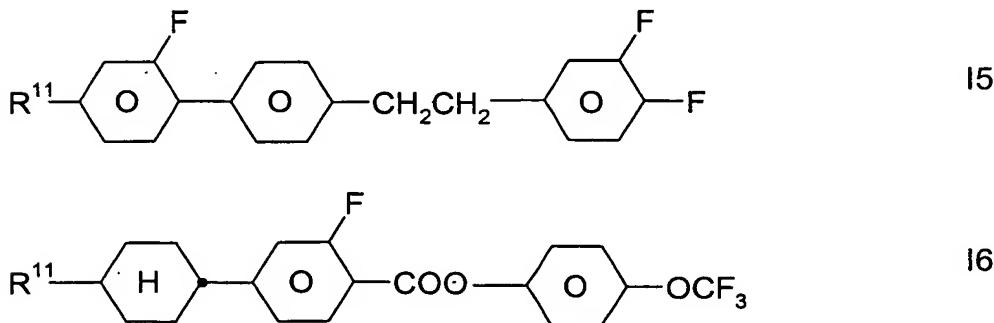
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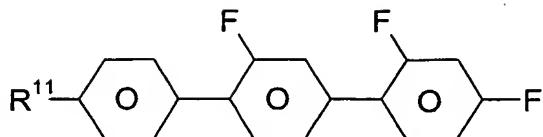
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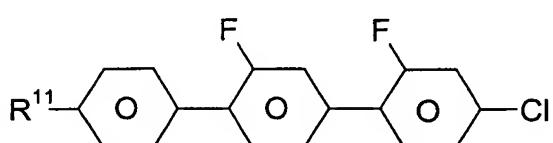
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in which R<sup>11</sup> is as defined above for the general formulae I and IA. R<sup>11</sup> is preferably CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>, n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH, CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CH or 3-alkenyl, in particular C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> or n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>.

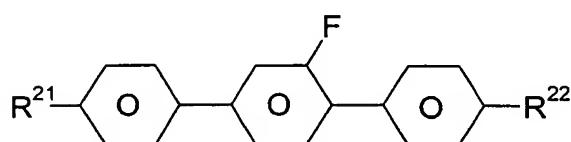
It is furthermore preferred for the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention to comprise at least two compounds of the formulae I and/or IA.

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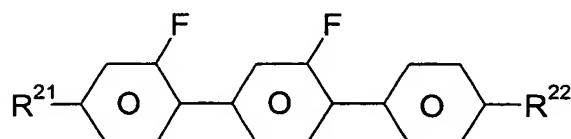
The formula II preferably covers the following compounds:



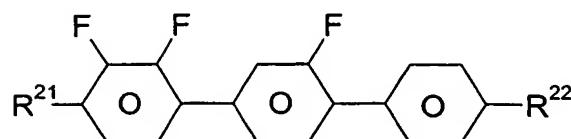
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112

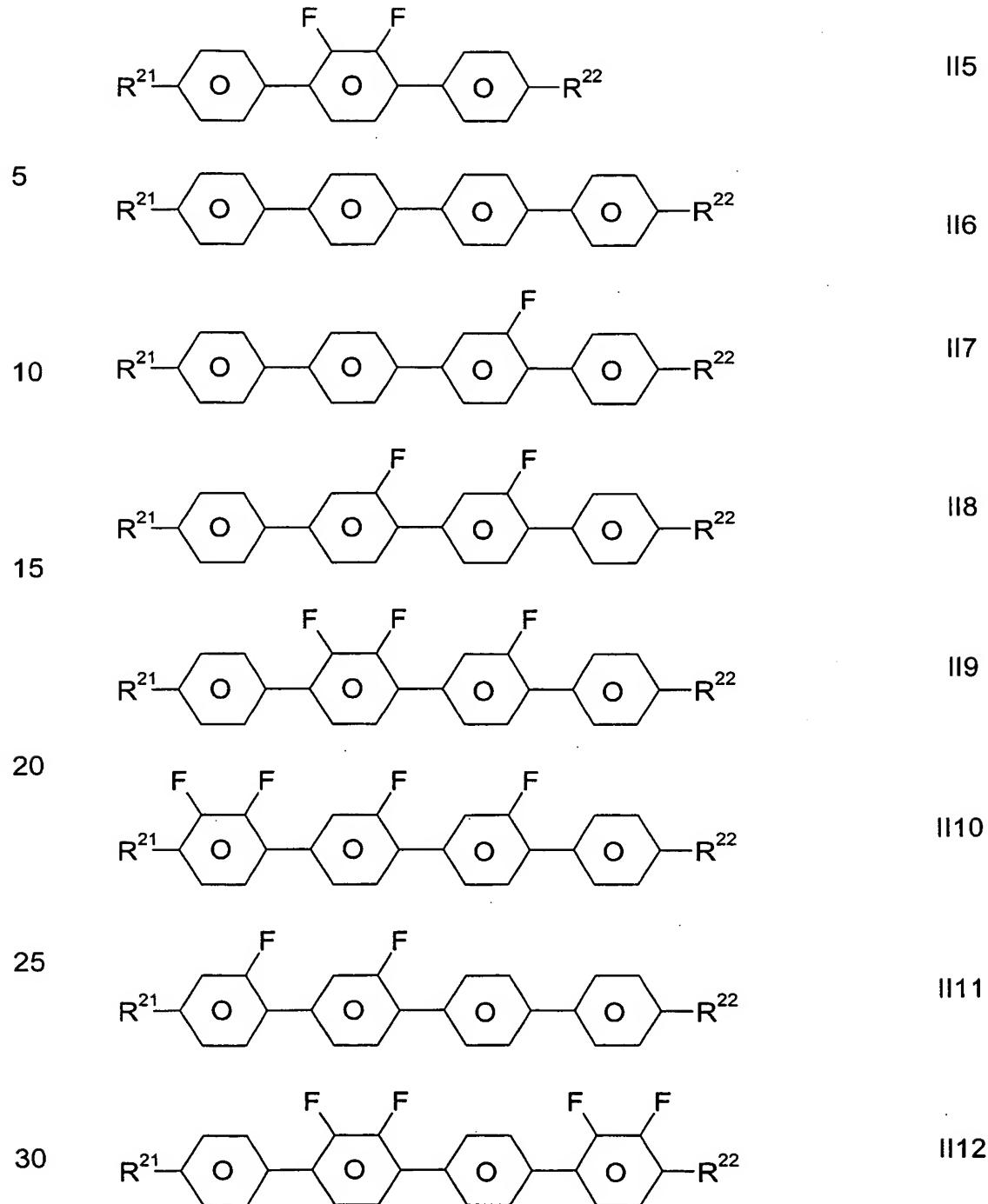


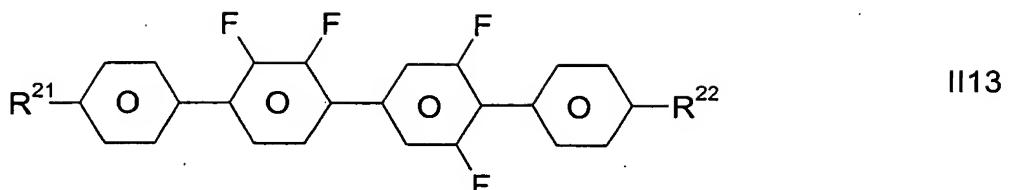
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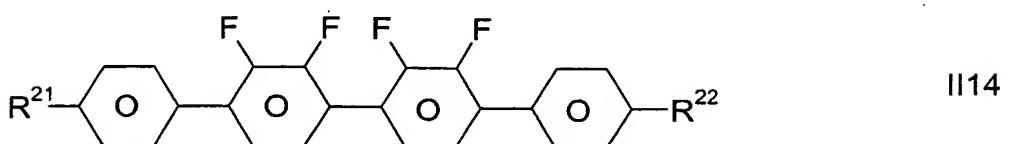
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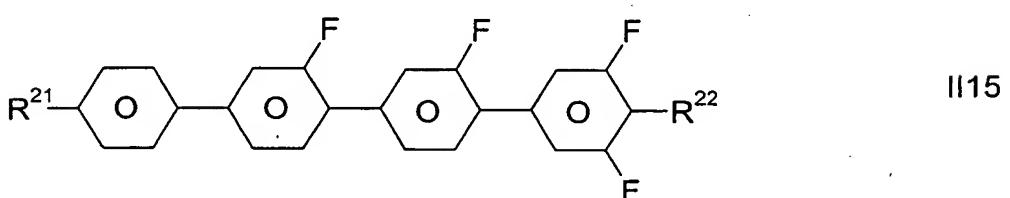




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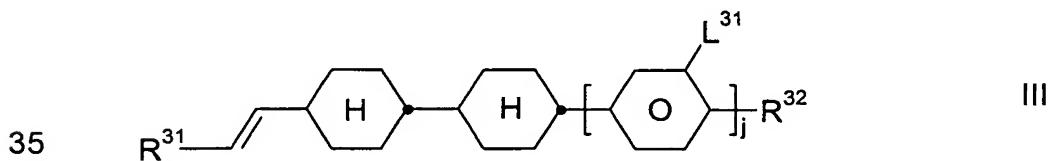


15

in which  $R^{21}$  and  $R^{22}$  are as defined above.

R<sup>21</sup> and R<sup>22</sup> in the compounds of the formulae II1 to II15 are preferably, independently of one another, F, Cl, CF<sub>3</sub> or straight-chain alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms. R<sup>21</sup> is, in particular, CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub> or n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>, very particularly preferably C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> or n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, while R<sup>22</sup> is, in particular, F, Cl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub> or n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>, very particularly preferably F, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> or n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>. Of these preferred compounds, the compounds of the formulae II2, II3, II9 and II10 where R<sup>21</sup> and R<sup>22</sup>, independently of one another, are C<sub>1-7</sub>-alkyl and of the formula II15 where R<sup>21</sup> is C<sub>1-7</sub>-alkyl and R<sup>22</sup> is F or C<sub>1-7</sub>-alkyl are particularly preferred.

30 It is furthermore preferred for the medium according to the invention  
additionally to comprise at least one compound of the formula III:



in which

$L^{31}$  is H or F;

5  $R^{31}$  is H, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where one or more  $CH_2$  groups in these radicals may also be replaced by  $-C\equiv C-$ ,  $-CH=CH-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-CO-O-$  or  $-O-CO-$  in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another;

10  $R^{32}$  is H, F, Cl, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical

having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where one or more  $CH_2$  groups in these radicals may also be replaced by  $-C\equiv C-$ ,  $-CH=CH-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-CO-O-$  or  $-O-CO-$  in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another; and

j is 0 or 1.

15 If  $R^{31}$  and/or  $R^{32}$  is an alkyl or alkoxy radical, this may be straight-chain or branched. It is preferably straight-chain, has 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 carbon atoms and accordingly is preferably methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, pentoxy, hexyloxy or heptyloxy, furthermore octyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl, dodecyl, tridecyl, tetradecyl, pentadecyl, octyloxy, nonyloxy, decyloxy, undecyloxy, dodecyloxy, tridecyloxy or tetradecyloxy.

25 Oxaalkyl is preferably straight-chain 2-oxapropyl (= methoxymethyl), ethoxymethyl or 3-oxabutyl (= 2-methoxyethyl), 2-, 3- or 4-oxapentyl, 2-, 3-, 4- or 5-oxahexyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-oxaheptyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-oxaoctyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-oxanonyl, or 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-oxadecyl.

30 If  $R^{31}$  and/or  $R^{32}$  is an alkyl radical in which one  $CH_2$  group has been replaced by  $-CH=CH-$ , this may be straight-chain or branched. A radical of this type is also known as an alkenyl radical. It is preferably straight-chain and has from 2 to 10 carbon atoms. Accordingly, it is particularly preferably vinyl, prop-1- or -2-enyl, but-1-, -2- or -3-enyl, pent-1-, -2-, -3- or -4-enyl, hex-1-, -2-, -3-, -4- or -5-enyl, hept-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5- or -6-enyl, oct-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6- or -7-enyl, non-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6-, -7- or -8-enyl, or

dec-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6-, -7-, -8- or -9-enyl. If the alkenyl group can have the E or Z configuration, the E configuration (trans configuration) is generally preferred.

- 5      If R<sup>31</sup> and/or R<sup>32</sup> is an alkyl radical in which one CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by -O- and one has been replaced by -CO-, these are preferably adjacent. These thus contain an acyloxy group -CO-O- or an oxycarbonyl group -O-CO. These are preferably straight-chain and have from 2 to 6 carbon atoms. Accordingly, they are in particular acetoxy, propionyloxy, butyryloxy, pentanoyloxy, hexanoyloxy, acetoxymethyl, propionyloxy-methyl, butyryloxymethyl, pentanoyloxymethyl, 2-acetoxyethyl, 2-propionyloxyethyl, 2-butyryloxyethyl, 3-acetoxypropyl, 3-propionyloxypropyl, 4-acetoxybutyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, butoxycarbonyl, pentoxy carbonyl, methoxycarbonylmethyl, ethoxy-carbonylmethyl, propoxycarbonylmethyl, butoxycarbonylmethyl, 2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 2-(ethoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 2-(propoxycarbonyl)-ethyl, 3-(methoxycarbonyl)propyl, 3-(ethoxycarbonyl)propyl or 4-(methoxycarbonyl)butyl.
- 10     If R<sup>31</sup> and/or R<sup>32</sup> is an alkyl radical in which one CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by unsubstituted or substituted -CH=CH- and an adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> group has been replaced by CO, CO-O or O-CO, this may be straight-chain or branched. It is preferably straight-chain and has from 4 to 12 carbon atoms. Accordingly, it is in particular acryloyloxymethyl, 2-acryloyloxyethyl, 3-acryloyloxypropyl, 4-acryloyloxybutyl, 5-acryloyloxypentyl, 6-acryloyloxyhexyl, 7-acryloyloxyheptyl, 8-acryloyloxyoctyl, 9-acryloyloxy-nonyl, 10-acryloyloxydecyl, methacryloyloxymethyl, 2-methacryloyloxyethyl, 3-methacryloyloxypropyl, 4-methacryloyloxybutyl, 5-methacryloyloxypentyl, 6-methacryloyloxyhexyl, 7-methacryloyloxyheptyl, 8-methacryloyloxyoctyl or 9-methacryloyloxy-nonyl.
- 15     If R<sup>31</sup> and/or R<sup>32</sup> is an alkyl, alkoxy or alkenyl radical which is at least monosubstituted by halogen, this radical is preferably straight-chain, and halogen is preferably F or Cl. In the case of polysubstitution, halogen is preferably F. The resultant radicals also include perfluorinated radicals. In

the case of monosubstitution, the fluorine or chlorine substituent may be in any desired position, but is preferably in the  $\omega$ -position. Particular preference is given to  $-CF_3$ ,  $-CHF_2$ ,  $-CH_2F$ ,  $-CH_2CF_3$ ,  $-CHFCF_2$ ,  $-CF_2CF_3$ ,  $-OCF_3$ ,  $-OCHF_2$ ,  $-OCH_2F$  and  $-CF=CF_2$ .

5

Compounds containing branched wing groups  $R^{31}$  and/or  $R^{32}$  may occasionally be of importance owing to better solubility in the usual liquid-crystalline base materials, but in particular as chiral dopants if they are optically active. Smectic compounds of this type are suitable as components of ferroelectric materials.

10

Branched groups of this type preferably contain not more than one chain branch. Preferred branched radicals R are isopropyl, 2-butyl (= 1-methylpropyl), isobutyl (= 2-methylpropyl), 2-methylbutyl, isopentyl (= 3-methylbutyl), 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2-ethylhexyl, 2-propylpentyl, iso-propoxy, 2-methylpropxy, 2-methylbutoxy, 3-methylbutoxy, 2-methylpentoxy, 3-methylpentoxy, 2-ethylhexyloxy, 1-methylhexyloxy and 1-methylheptyloxy.

15

If  $R^{31}$  and/or  $R^{32}$  is an alkyl radical in which two or more  $CH_2$  groups have been replaced by  $-O-$  and/or  $-CO-O-$ , this may be straight-chain or branched. It is preferably branched and has from 3 to 12 carbon atoms. Accordingly, it is in particular biscarboxymethyl, 2,2-biscarboxyethyl, 3,3-biscarboxypropyl, 4,4-biscarboxybutyl, 5,5-biscarboxypentyl, 6,6-bis-

25

carboxyhexyl, 7,7-biscarboxyheptyl, 8,8-biscarboxyoctyl, 9,9-biscarboxynonyl, 10,10-biscarboxydecyl, bis(methoxycarbonyl)methyl, 2,2-bis(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 3,3-bis(methoxycarbonyl)propyl, 4,4-bis(methoxycarbonyl)butyl, 5,5-bis(methoxycarbonyl)pentyl, 6,6-bis(methoxycarbonyl)hexyl, 7,7-bis(methoxycarbonyl)heptyl, 8,8-bis(methoxycarbonyl)octyl,

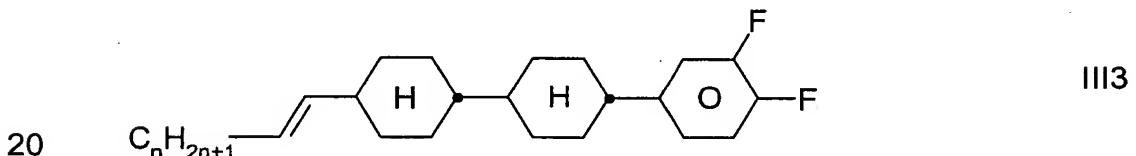
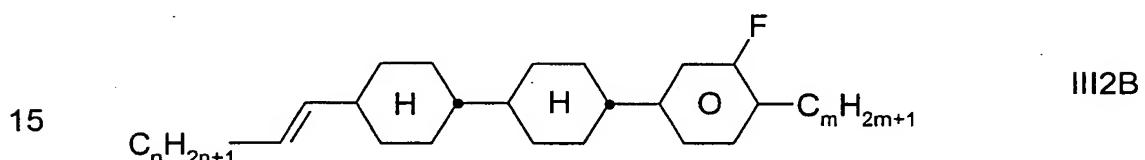
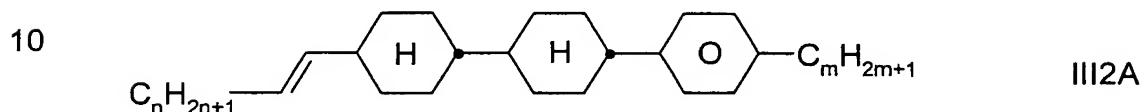
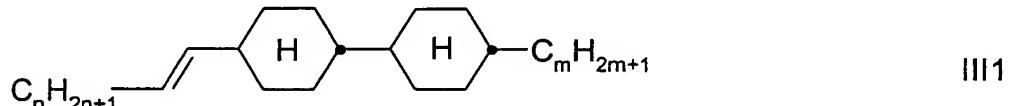
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bis(ethoxycarbonyl)methyl, 2,2-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)ethyl, 3,3-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)propyl, 4,4-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)butyl or 5,5-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)pentyl.

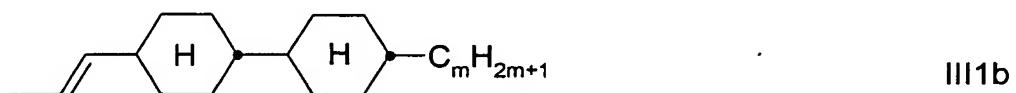
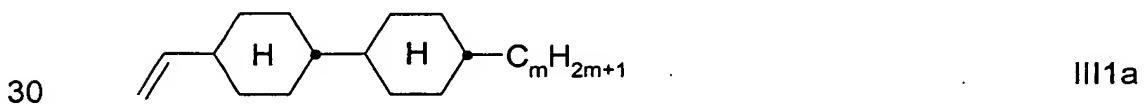
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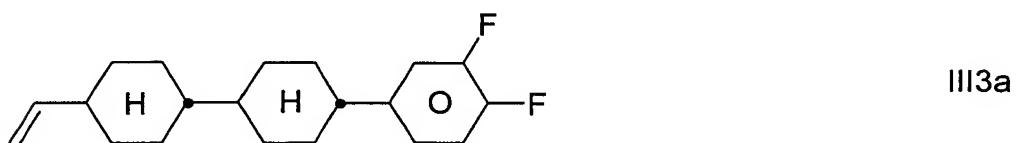
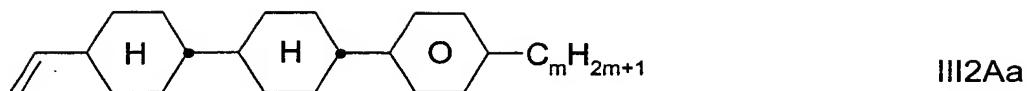
$R^{31}$  is preferably H or methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or n-butyl, in particular H.  $R^{32}$  is preferably F, Cl or straight-chain alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 carbon atoms, in particular F or n-propyl or n-pentyl.

- 5 Particularly preferred compounds of the formula III are

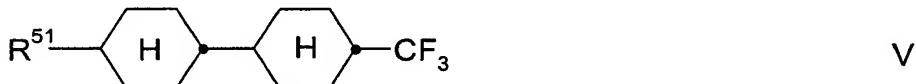
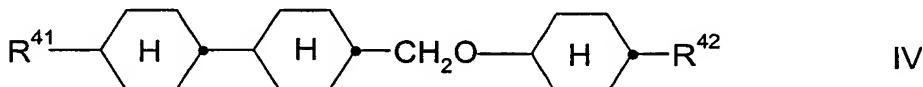


where n and m, independently of one another, are 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7. Very particular preference is given to the compounds of the formulae III1a and III1b where  $m = 3, 4$  or  $5$ , compounds of the formula III2Aa where  $m = 2, 3, 4$  or  $5$ , and the compound of the formula III3a:





It is furthermore preferred for the liquid-crystalline media according to the invention to comprise one or more compounds of the formulae IV and/or V:



in which

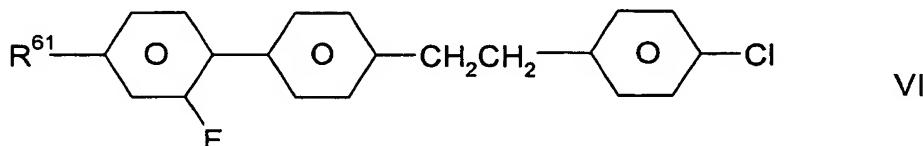
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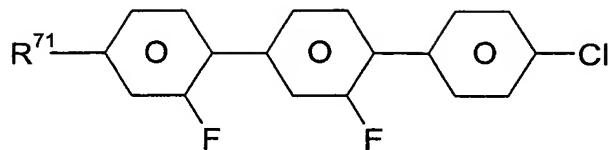
R<sup>41</sup>, R<sup>42</sup> and R<sup>51</sup>, independently of one another, are alkyl having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms.

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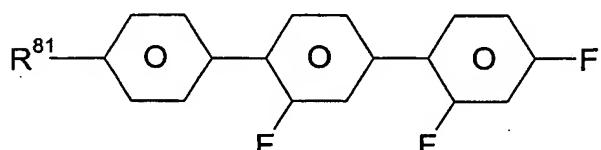
R<sup>41</sup>, R<sup>42</sup> and R<sup>51</sup> are preferably, independently of one another, linear alkyl chains each having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, i.e. methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl or n-heptyl, particularly preferably n-propyl, n-butyl or n-pentyl.

In addition, it is preferred for the liquid-crystalline media according to the invention to comprise at least one compound of the formulae VI and/or VII and/or VIII:





VII



VIII

in which

$R^{61}$ ,  $R^{71}$  and  $R^{81}$ , independently of one another, are alkyl having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms.

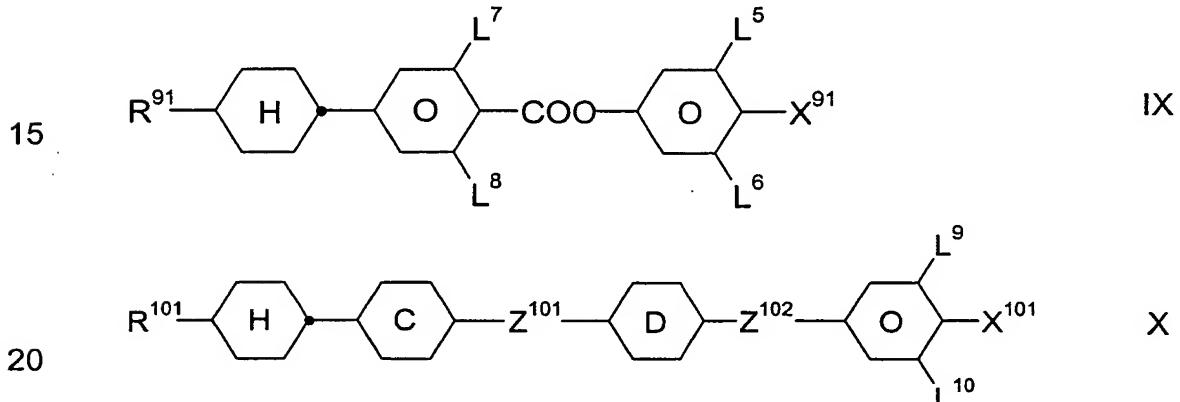
$R^{61}$ ,  $R^{71}$  and  $R^{81}$  are preferably, independently of one another, unbranched alkyl each having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, i.e. methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl or n-heptyl, particularly preferably ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl or n-pentyl.

The compounds of the formulae VI, VII and VIII also each form a preferred group of compounds of the formula I (where, inter alia,  $Z^{11}$  = single bond for the formulae VII and VIII or  $Z^{11}$  =  $-CH_2CH_2-$  for the formula VI). In certain embodiments of the invention, the compounds of the formula I are selected from the group formed by the compounds of the formulae VI, VII and VIII. In other, particularly preferred embodiments, the compounds of the formulae VI, VII and/or VIII are present in the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention besides at least one compound of the formula I which is not also represented by one of the formulae VI, VII and VIII; this applies, in particular, if the compound(s) of the formula I is (are) one or more compounds of the formula IA.

The joint proportion of the compounds of the formulae I and II in the liquid-crystal mixture as a whole is preferably from 5 to 85% by weight, in particular from 10 to 75% by weight, particularly preferably from 15 to 65% by weight.

The proportion of the compounds of the formula II in the liquid-crystal mixture as a whole is preferably from 0.1 to 10% by weight, in particular from 0.25 to 5% by weight and particularly preferably from 0.5 to 2% by  
5 weight.

In preferred embodiments, the liquid-crystalline media according to the invention, besides the compounds of the formula I, in particular of the formula IA, and of the formula II and any further constituents, for example  
10 compounds of the formulae III, IV, V, VI, VII and/or VIII, furthermore comprise compounds of the formulae IX and/or X:



in which

25  $R^{91}$  and  $R^{101}$  are each, independently of one another, H, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, where, in addition, one or more  $CH_2$  groups in these radicals may each be replaced, independently of one another, by  
-C≡C-, -CH=CH-, -O-, -CO-O- or -O-CO- in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another;

30  $X^{91}$  and  $X^{101}$  are each, independently of one another, F, Cl, CN,  $SF_5$ , SCN, NCS, a halogenated alkyl radical, a halogenated alkenyl radical, a halogenated alkoxy radical or a halogenated alkenyloxy radical, each having up to 6 carbon atoms;  
35  $Z^{101}$  and  $Z^{102}$  are each, independently of one another,  $-CF_2O-$ ,  $-OCF_2-$  or a single bond, where  $Z^{101} \neq Z^{102}$ ;

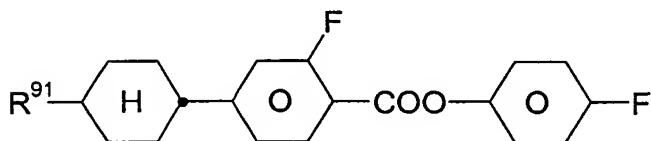
$L^5, L^6, L^7, L^8, L^9$  and  $L^{10}$  are each, independently of one another, H or F; and

$\text{---} \text{C} \text{---}$  and  $\text{---} \text{D} \text{---}$  are each, independently of one another,

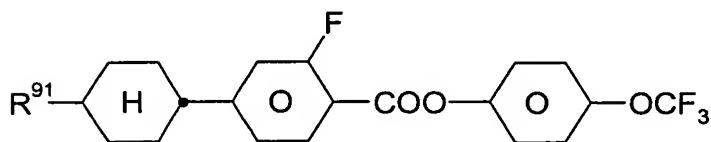
- 5       $\text{---} \text{H} \text{---}$ ,  $\text{---} \text{O} \text{---}$ ,  
 $\text{---} \text{O} \text{---}$ ,  $\text{---} \text{O} \text{---}$ ,  $\text{---} \text{O} \text{---}$  or  $\text{---} \text{O} \text{---}$ .

10     At the same time, the compounds of the formula IX form a preferred group of compounds of the formula I (where, inter alia,  $Z^{11} = -\text{COO}-$ ). In certain preferred embodiments of the invention, the compounds of the formula I are selected from the group formed by the compounds of the formula IX. In other, particularly preferred embodiments, one or more compounds of the formula IX are present in the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention besides at least one compound of the formula I which is not also represented by the formula IX; this applies, in particular, if the compound(s) of the formula I is (are) one or more compounds of the formula IA.

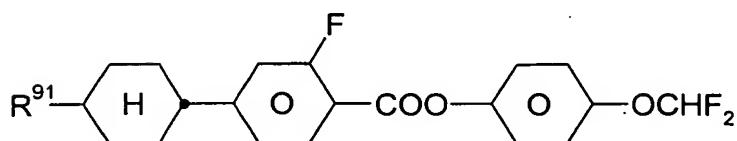
20     Preferred compounds of the formula IX are the following compounds:



IX1

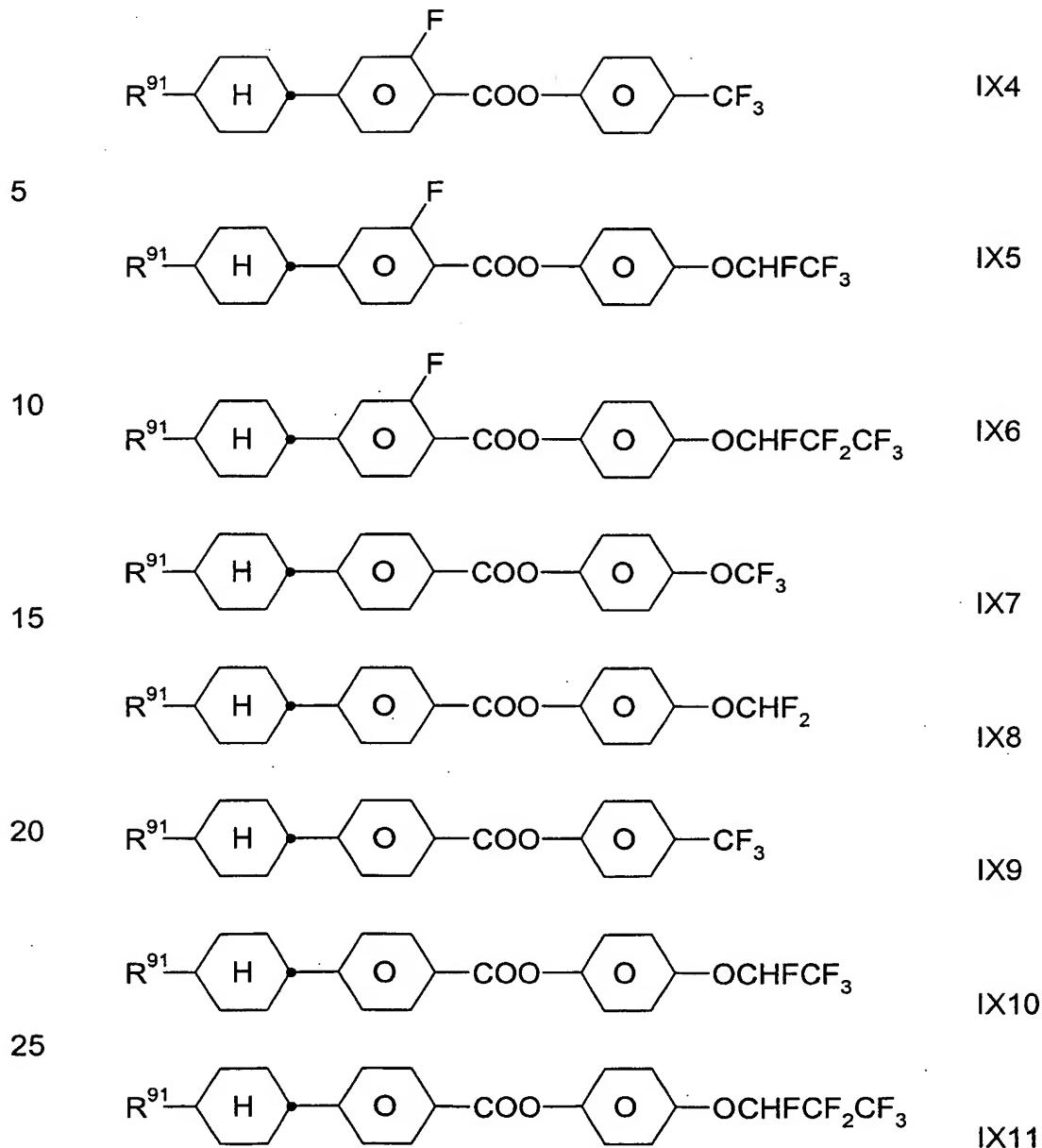


IX2



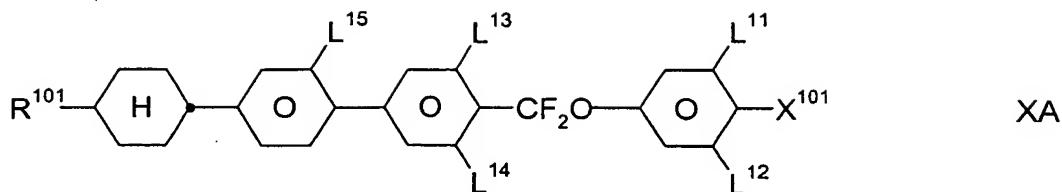
IX3

- 40 -

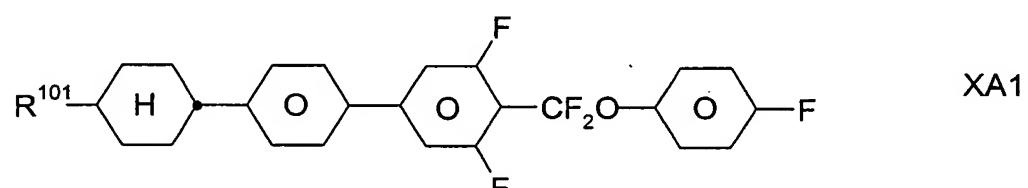


30 In these formulae, R<sup>91</sup> is as defined above for the formula IX. R<sup>91</sup> is preferably H, CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH, CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CH or 3-alkenyl.

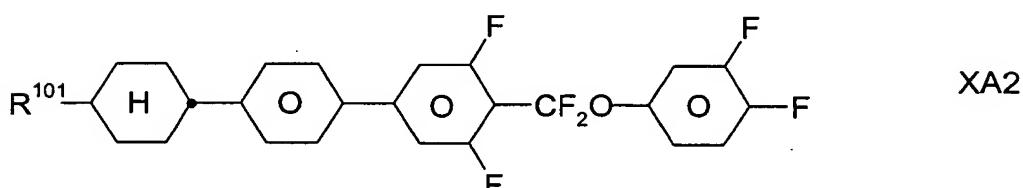
35 The compounds of the formula X preferably have the structure of the formula XA:



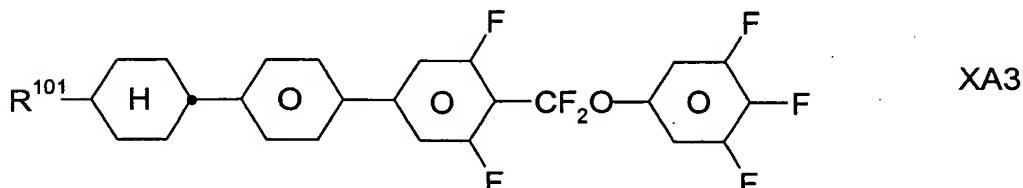
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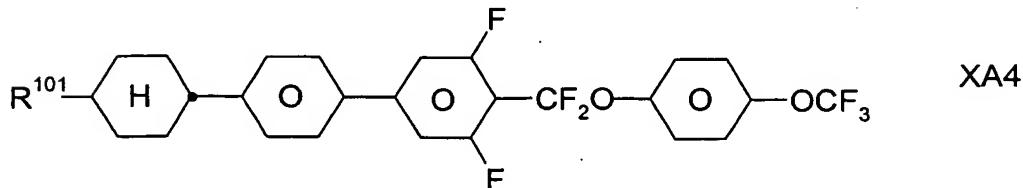
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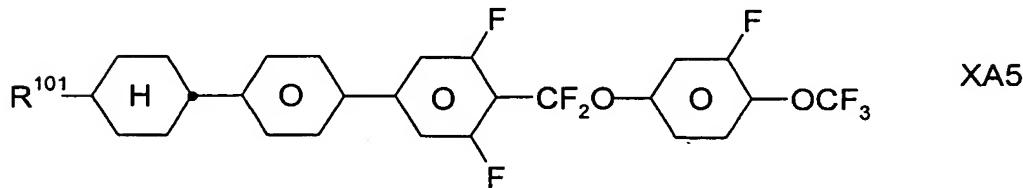
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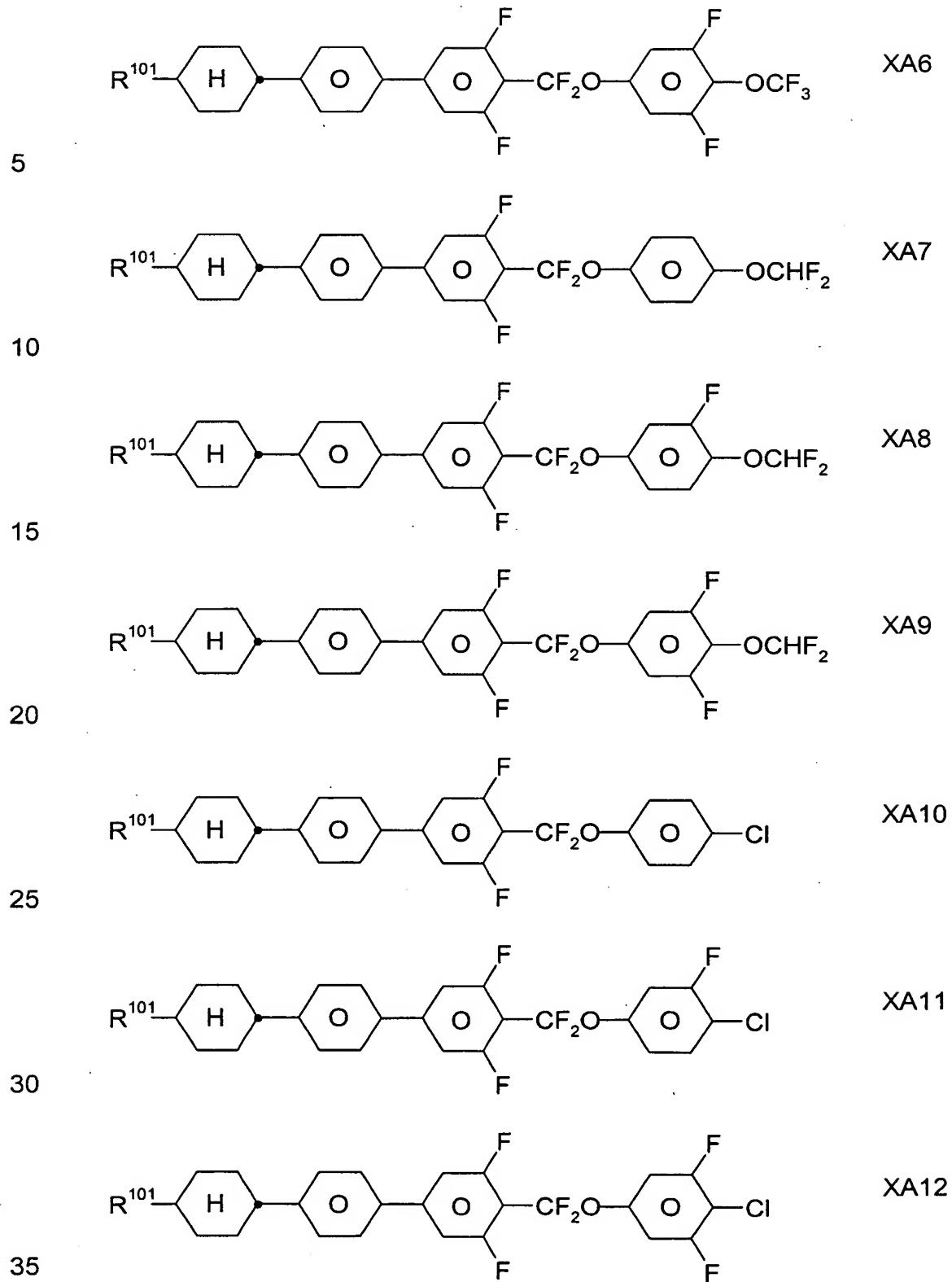


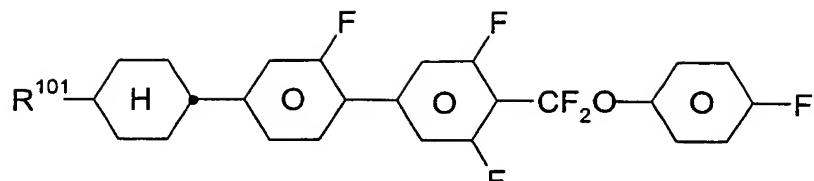
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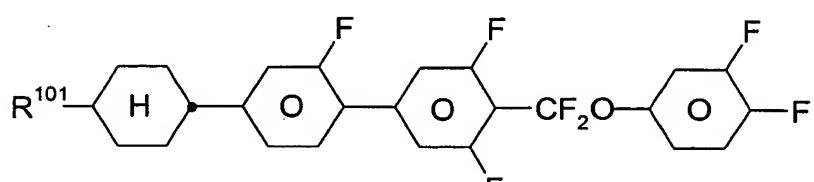
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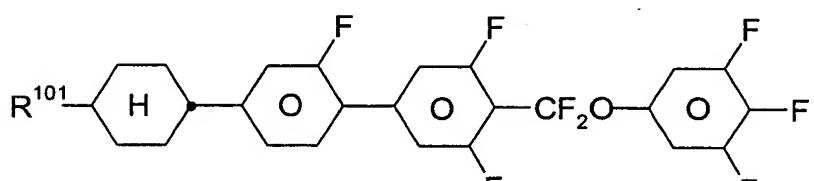




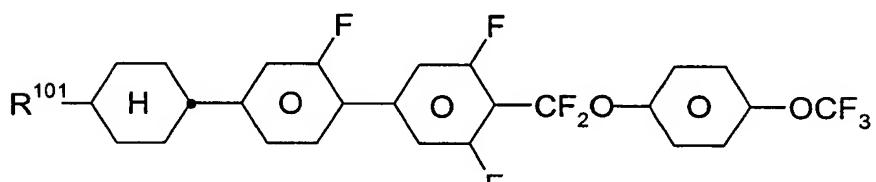
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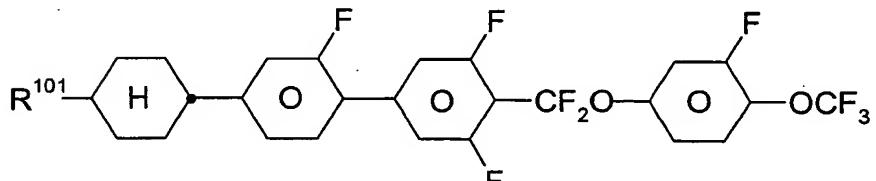
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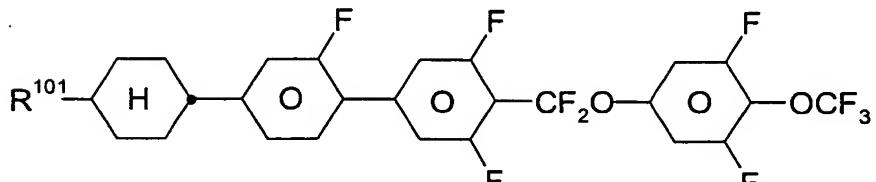
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XA13

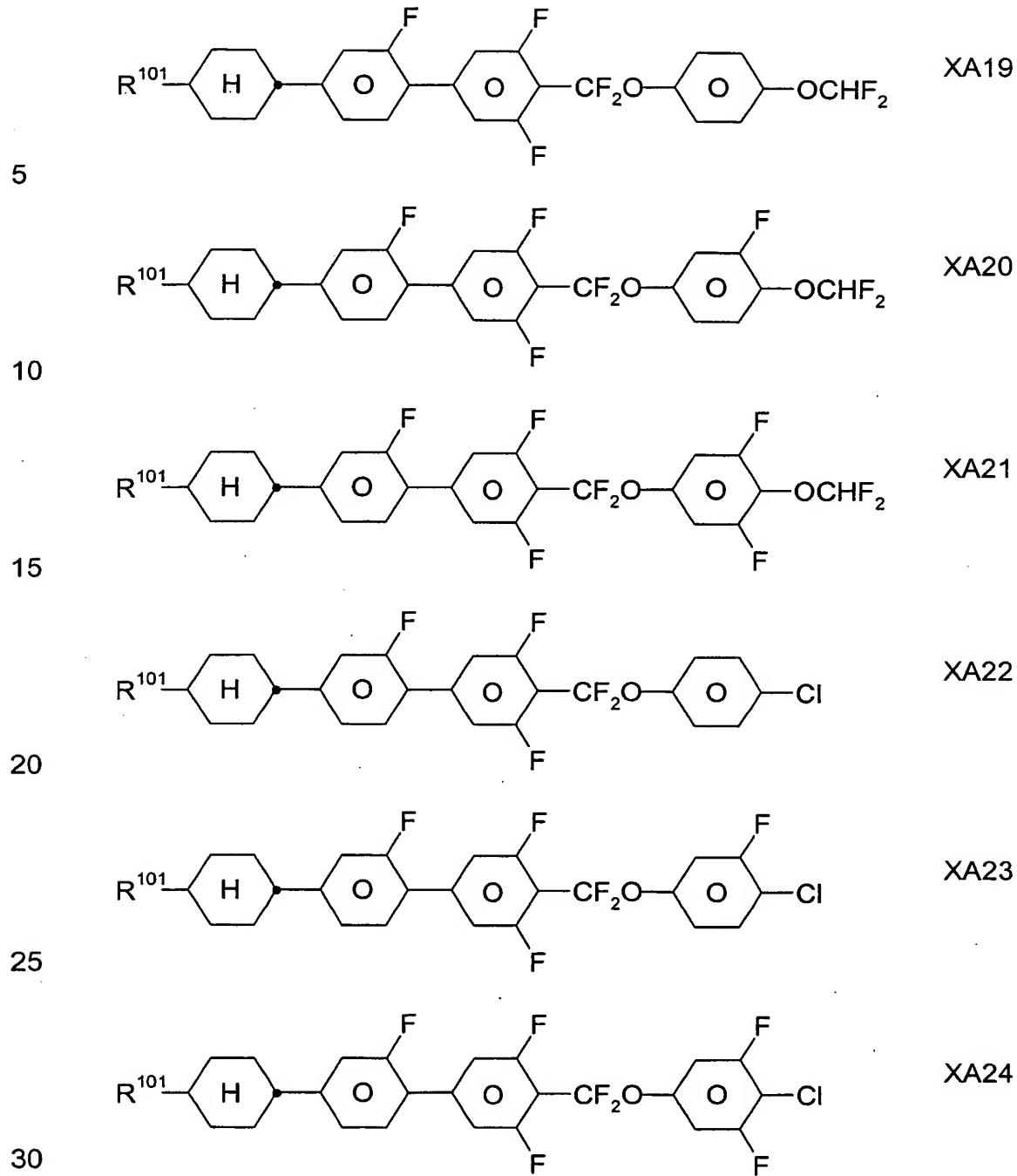
XA14

XA15

XA16

XA17

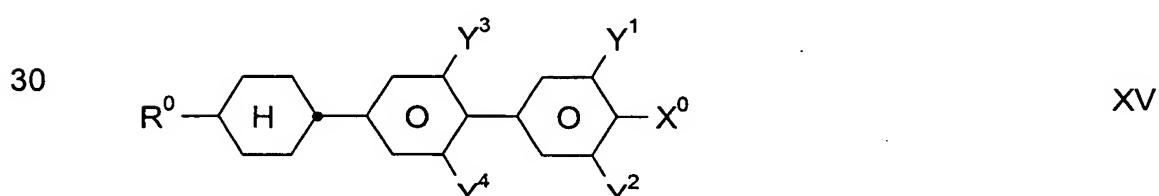
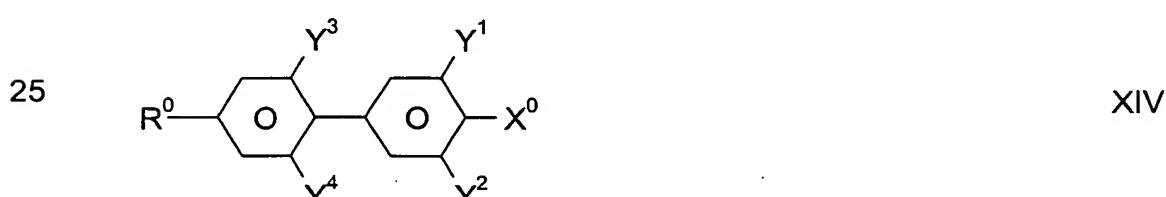
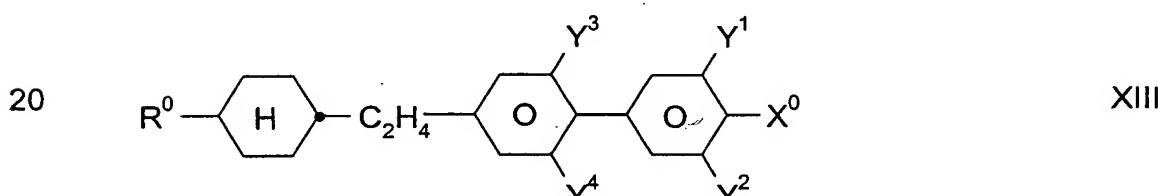
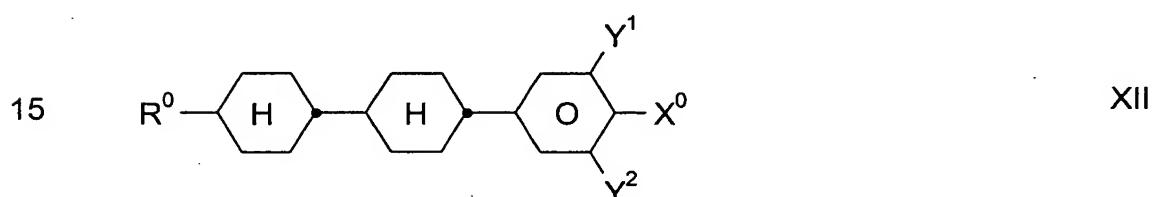
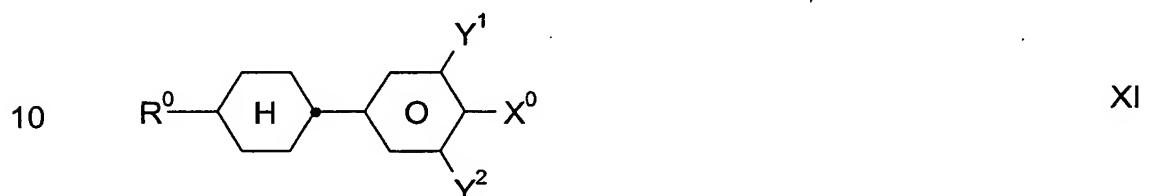
XA18

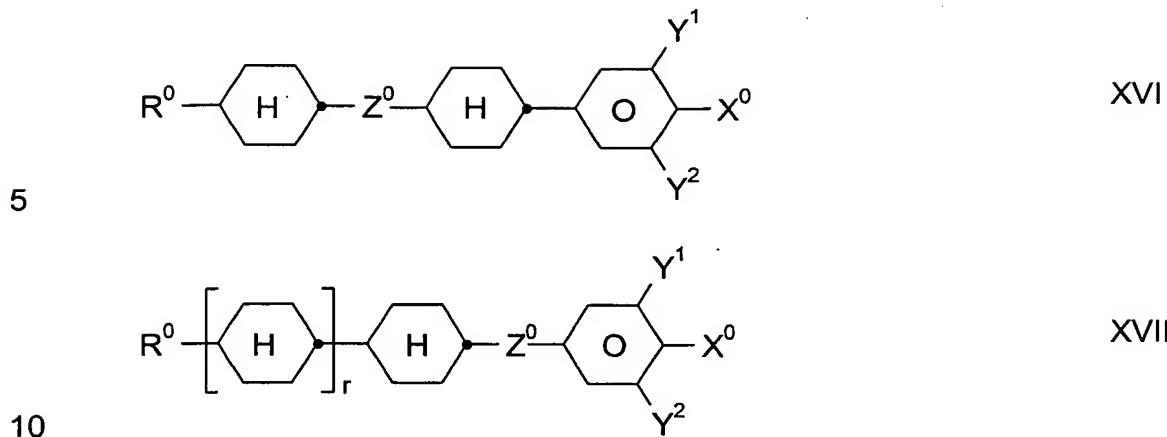


In these formulae, R<sup>101</sup> is as defined above for the formulae X and XA and is preferably straight-chain alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, in particular CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, n-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub> or n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>.

furthermore 1E- or 3-alkenyl, in particular CH<sub>2</sub>=CH, CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CH,  
CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>.

It is furthermore preferred for the medium according to the invention  
5 additionally to comprise one or more compounds selected from the group  
consisting of compounds of the general formulae XI to XVII:





in which the individual radicals have the following meanings:

$R^0$  is H, n-alkyl, oxaalkyl, fluoroalkyl or alkenyl, each having up to 9 carbon atoms;

15  $X^0$  is F, Cl, halogenated alkyl, alkenyl, alkenyloxy or alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms;

$Z^0$  is  $-C_2F_4-$ ,  $-CF=CF-$ ,  $-C_2H_4-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_4-$ ,  $-CF_2O-$ ,  $-OCF_2-$ ,  $-OCH_2-$  or  $-CH_2O-$ ;

20  $Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$ ,  $Y^3$  and  $Y^4$  are each, independently of one another, H or F; and  
 $r$  is 0 or 1.

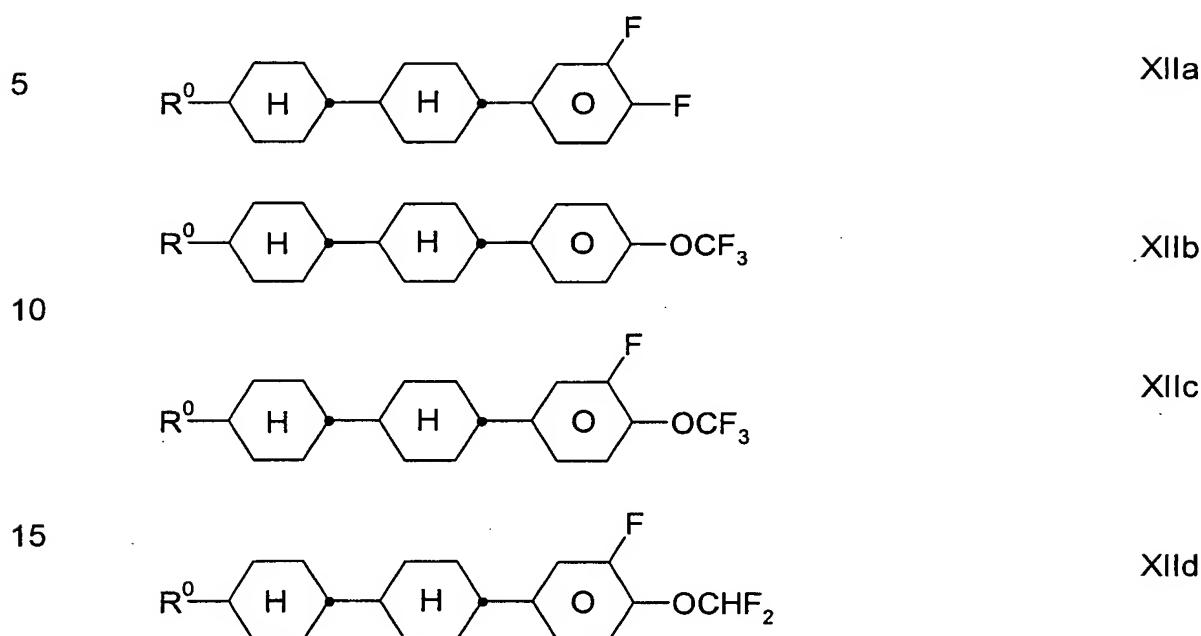
(Some compounds of the formulae XI, XII, XIV, XV and XVII may – given a corresponding choice of  $X^0$ ,  $Z^0$ ,  $Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$ ,  $Y^3$ ,  $Y^4$  and  $r$  – in each case form a group of compounds of the formula I (and/or of the formula IA). In certain preferred embodiments of the invention, the compounds of the formula I

25 (or, with regard to certain compounds of the formulae XII, XV and XVII, also of the formula IA) are selected from the groups formed by the compounds of the formulae XI, XII, XIV, XV and XVII; this applies, in particular, to compounds of the formulae XII, XV and XVII where  $Y^1 = F$ ,  $Y^2 = H$  or F and, where present,  $Z^0 = -CF_2O-$ . In other, particularly preferred embodiments, one or more compounds of the formulae XI, XII, XIV, XV and/or XVII are present in the liquid-crystalline media according to the invention besides at least one compound of the formula I or in particular of the formula IA which is not represented by the formulae XI, XII, XIV, XV and/or XVII.)

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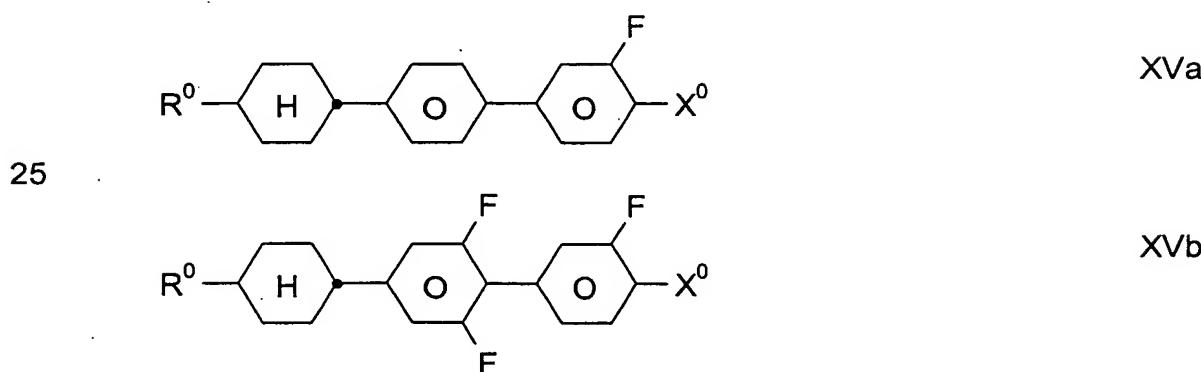
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Preferred compounds of the formula XII are:



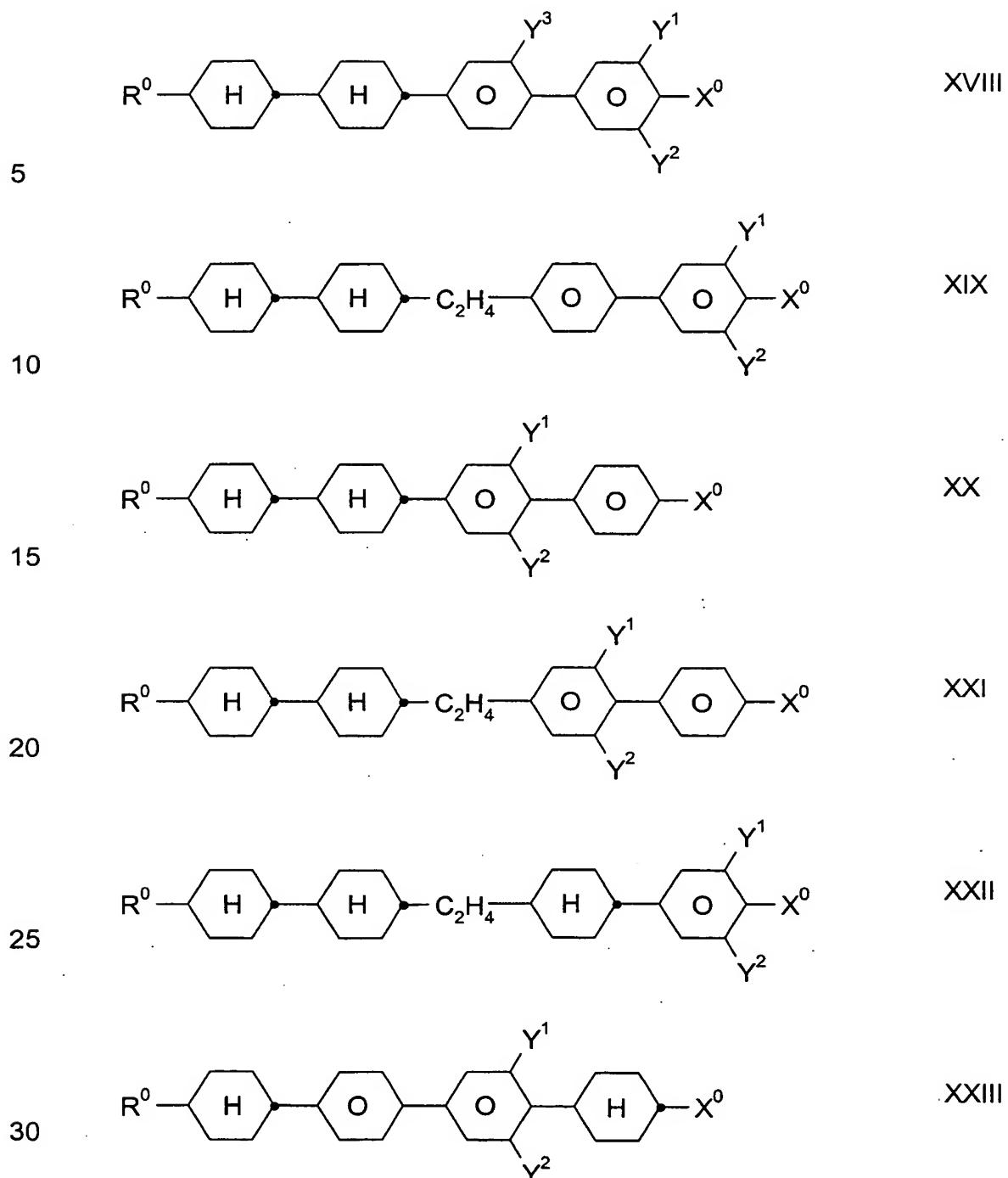
in which  $R^0$  is as defined above.

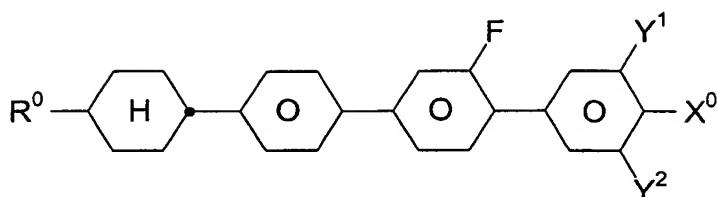
Preferred compounds of the formula XV are:



in which  $R^0$  is as defined above.

The medium preferably additionally comprises one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of the general formulae XVIII to XXIV:





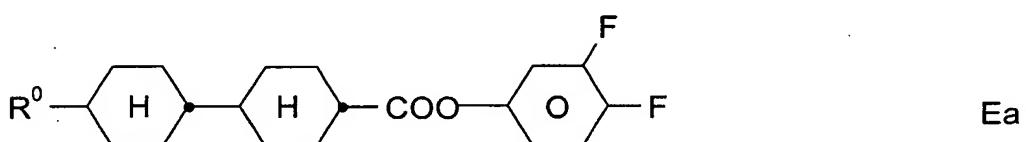
XXIV

in which  $R^0$ ,  $X^0$ ,  $Y^1$  and  $Y^2$  are each, independently of one another, as defined above for one of the formulae XI to XVII.  $Y^3$  is H or F.  $X^0$  is preferably F, Cl,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$  or  $OCHF_2$ .  $R^0$  is preferably alkyl, oxaalkyl, fluoroalkyl or alkenyl, each having up to 6 carbon atoms.

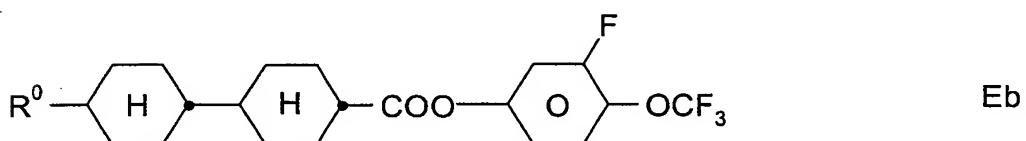
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The medium preferably additionally comprises one or more ester compounds of the formulae Ea to Ec (if they are not already present as compound(s) of the formula I or IA)

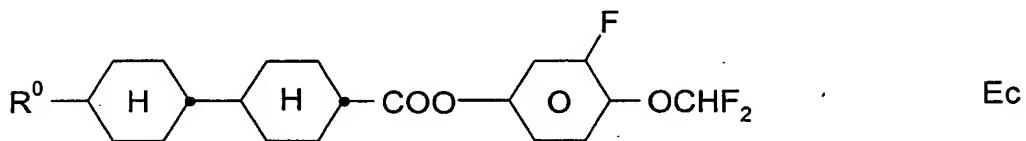
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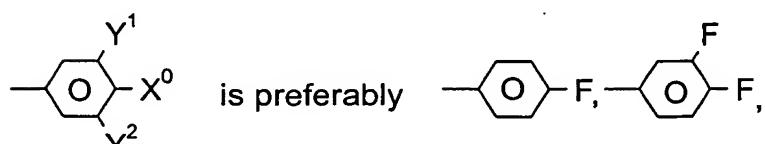


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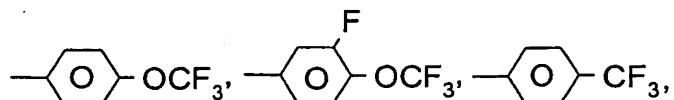


in which  $R^0$  is as defined above for one of the formulae XI to XVII.

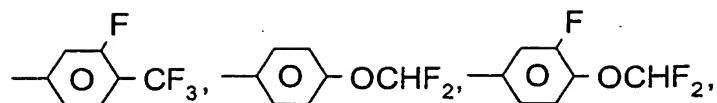
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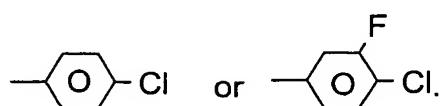
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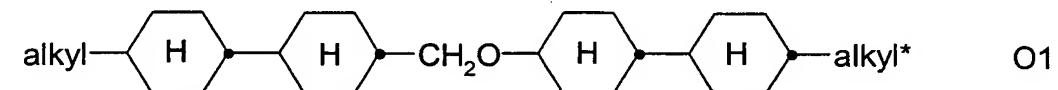
- 50 -



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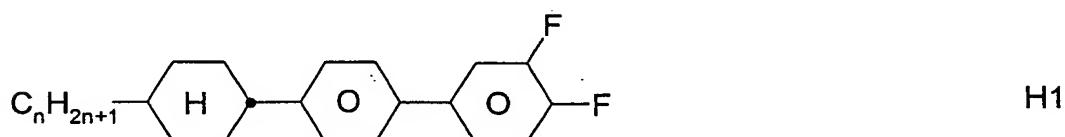
in which "alkyl" and "alkyl\*" are each, independently of one another, a straight-chain or branched alkyl radical having 1-9 carbon atoms.

The proportion of the compounds of the formula O1 in the mixtures according to the invention is preferably 5-10% by weight.

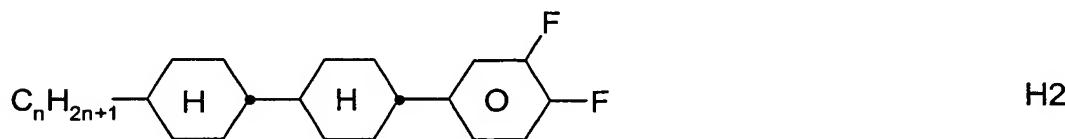
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The medium preferably comprises one, two or three, furthermore four, homologues of the compounds selected from the group consisting of H1 to H12 (where n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12):

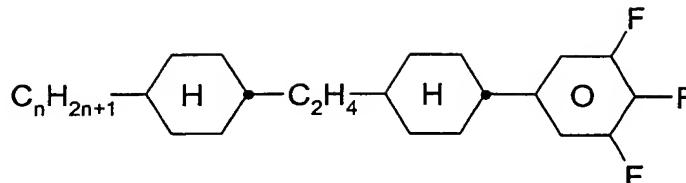
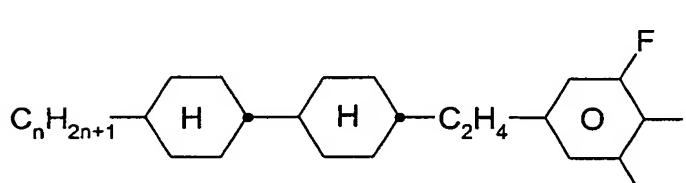
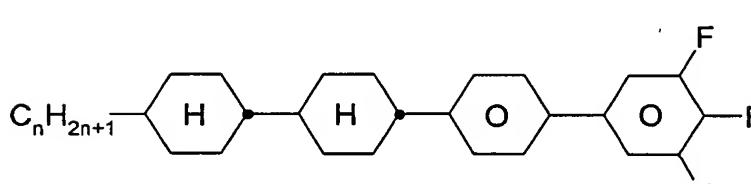
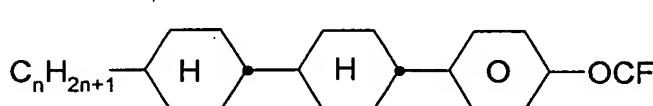
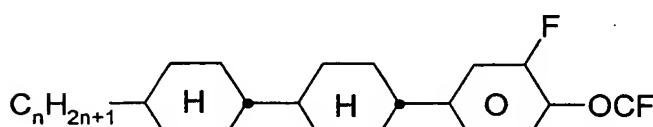
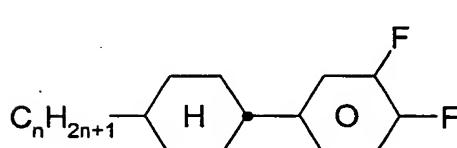
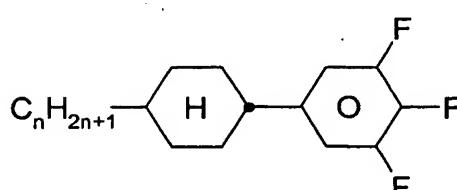
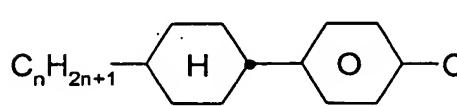
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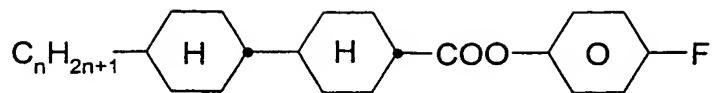


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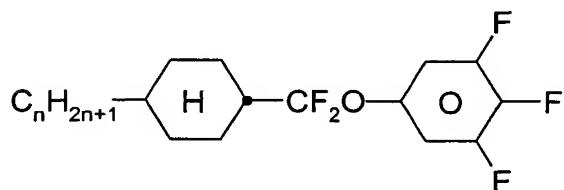


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		H3
5		
		H4
10		
		H5
15		
		H6
20		
		H7
25		H8
30		H9
35		H10

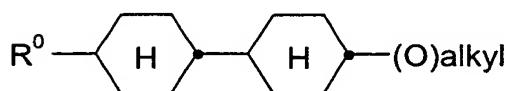


H11

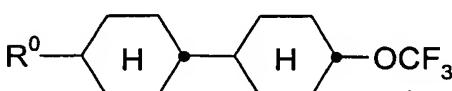


H12

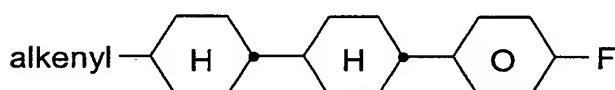
- 10 The medium comprises further compounds, preferably selected from the following group consisting of compounds of the formulae RI to RIX:



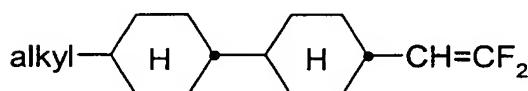
RI



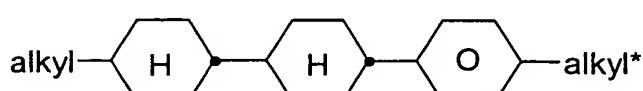
RII



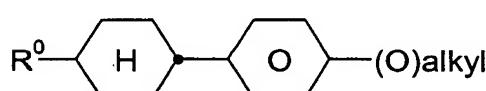
RIII



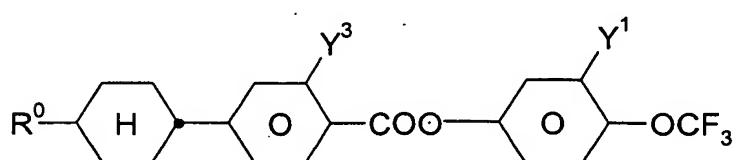
RIV



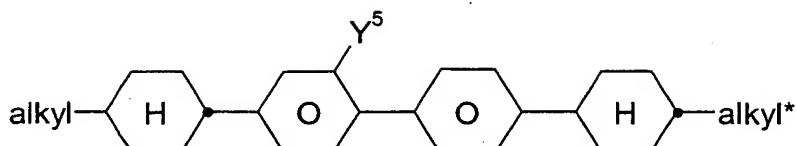
RV



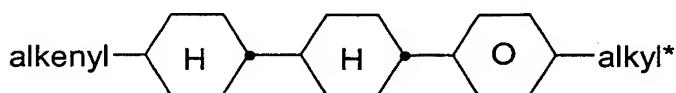
RVI



RVII



RVIII



RIX

in which

$R^0$  is n-alkyl, oxaalkyl, fluoroalkyl, alkenyloxy or alkenyl, each having up to 9 carbon atoms:

$\gamma^1$ ,  $\gamma^3$  and  $\gamma^5$ : independently of one another, are H or E:

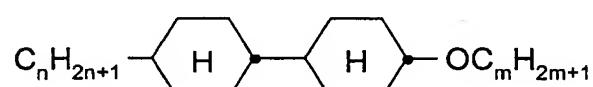
"alkyl" and "alkyl\*" are each, independently of one another, a straight-chain or branched alkyl radical having 1-9 carbon atoms;

"alkenyl" is a straight-chain or branched alkenyl radical having up to 9 carbon atoms.

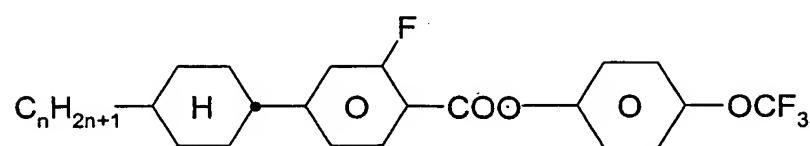
The medium preferably comprises one or more compounds of the following formulae:



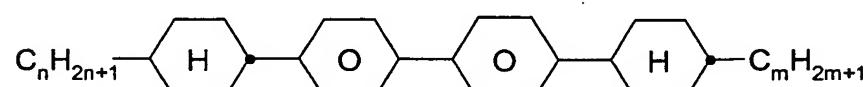
Rla



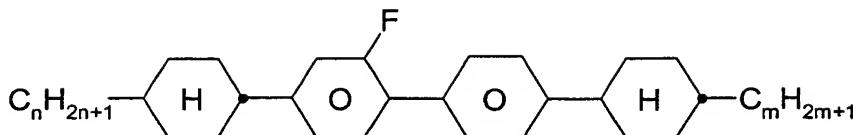
Rib



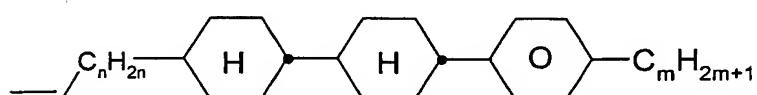
RVilla



RVilla



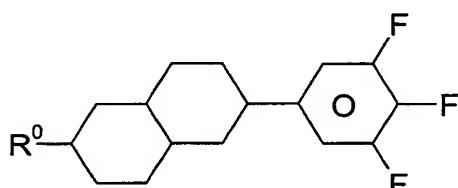
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RIXa

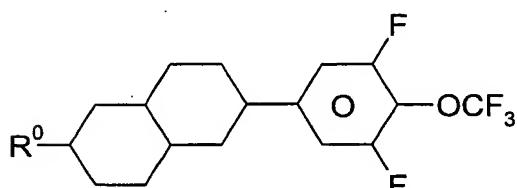
in which n and m, independently of one another, are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,  
10, 11 or 12. n and m are preferably, independently of one another, 1, 2, 3,  
11 4, 5 or 6. In the case of the formula RIXa, n is in particular 2.

15



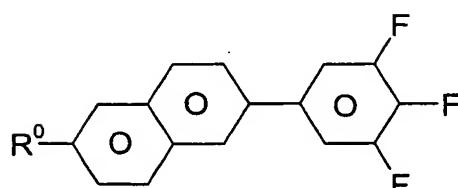
AN1

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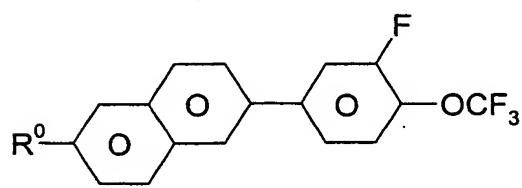
AN2

25



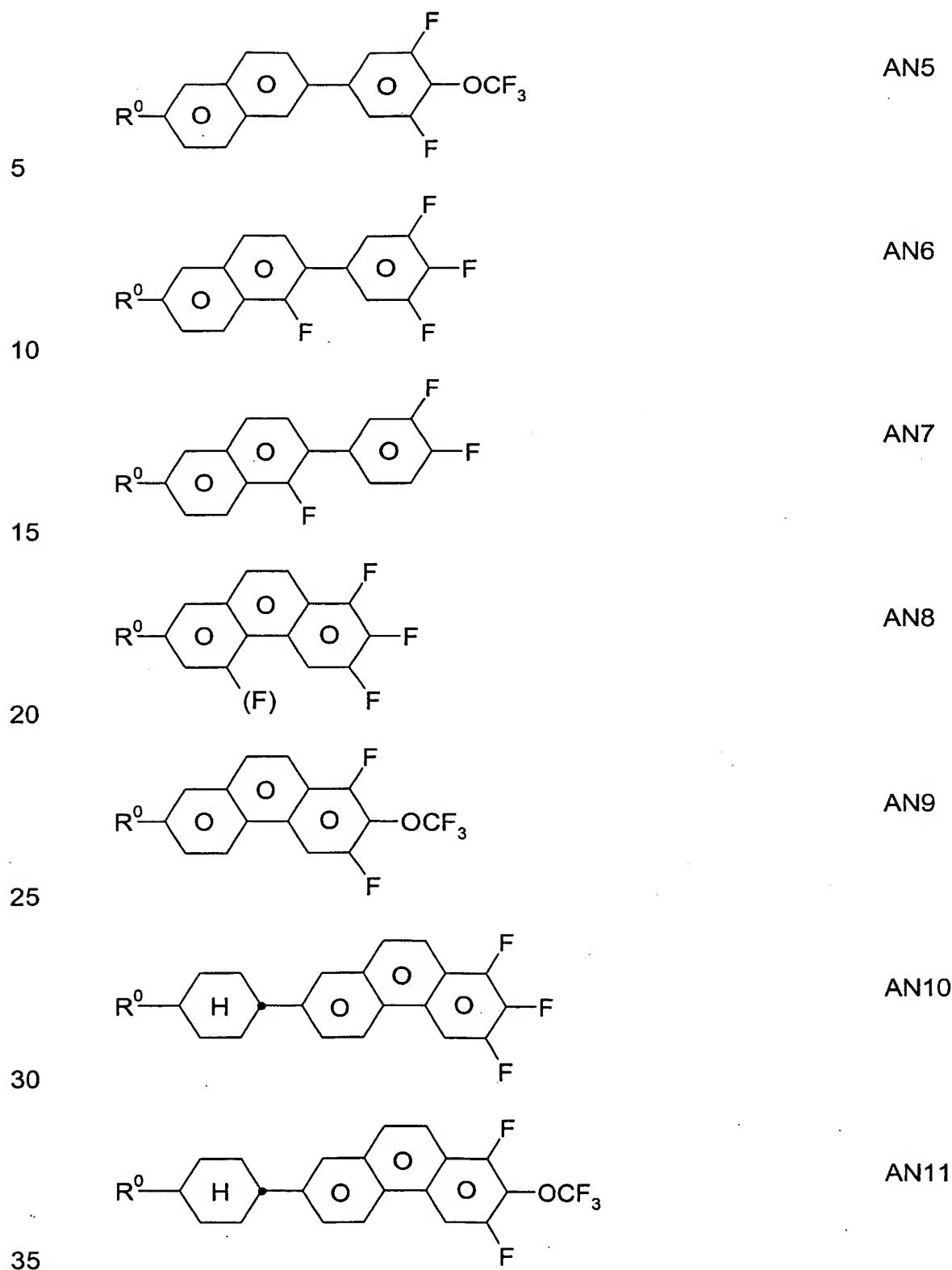
AN3

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AN4

35



in which R<sup>0</sup> is as defined above.

It has been found that the media according to the invention comprising compounds of the formulae I and II mixed with conventional liquid-crystal materials, but in particular with one or more compounds of the formulae III, IV, V, VI, VII and/or VIII and of the formulae IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI and/or XVII, results in very good stability, a significant lowering of the threshold voltage and in high values for the VHR values (100°C), with broad nematic phases with low smectic-nematic transition temperatures being observed at the same time, improving the shelf life. The compounds of the formulae I to XVII are stable and readily miscible with one another and with other liquid-crystalline materials.

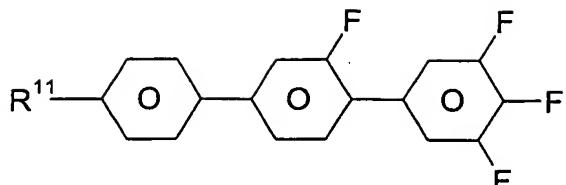
The term "alkyl" or "alkyl\*" - unless defined otherwise elsewhere in this description or in the claims - covers straight-chain and branched alkyl groups having 1-12, preferably 1-7 carbon atoms, in particular the straight-chain groups methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl and heptyl. Groups having 1-5 carbon atoms are generally preferred.

The term "alkenyl" - unless defined otherwise elsewhere in this description or in the claims - covers straight-chain and branched alkenyl groups having 2-12, preferably 2-7 carbon atoms, in particular the straight-chain groups. Preferred alkenyl groups are C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-1E-alkenyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-3E-alkenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-4-alkenyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-5-alkenyl and C<sub>7</sub>-6-alkenyl, in particular C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-1E-alkenyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-3E-alkenyl and C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-4-alkenyl. Examples of particularly preferred alkenyl groups are vinyl, 1E-propenyl, 1E-butenyl, 1E-pentenyl, 1E-hexenyl, 1E-heptenyl, 3-butenyl, 3E-pentenyl, 3E-hexenyl, 3E-heptenyl, 4-pentenyl, 4Z-hexenyl, 4E-hexenyl, 4Z-heptenyl, 5-hexenyl, 6-heptenyl and the like. Groups having up to 5 carbon atoms are generally preferred.

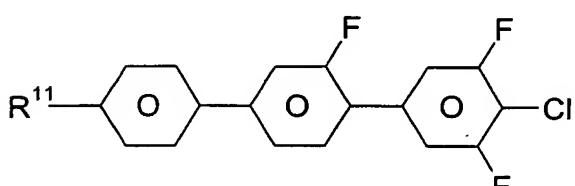
The term "fluoroalkyl" preferably covers straight-chain groups having a terminal fluorine, i.e. fluoromethyl, 2-fluoroethyl, 3-fluoropropyl, 4-fluorobutyl, 5-fluoropentyl, 6-fluorohexyl and 7-fluorohexyl. However, other positions of the fluorine are not excluded.

The term "oxaalkyl" preferably covers straight-chain radicals of the formula  $C_nH_{2n+1}-O-(CH_2)_m$ , in which n and m are each, independently of one another, from 1 to 6. Preferably, n = 1 and m is from 1 to 6.

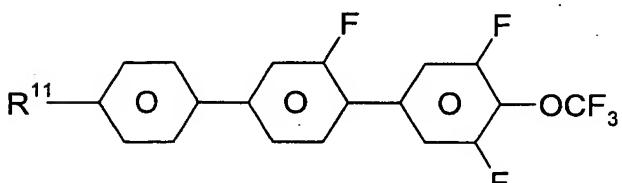
- 5 Through a suitable choice of the meanings of  $R^0$  and  $X^0$ , the addressing times, the threshold voltage, the steepness of the transmission characteristic lines, etc., can be modified in the desired manner. For example, 1E-alkenyl radicals, 3E-alkenyl radicals, 2E-alkenyloxy radicals and the like generally result in shorter addressing times, improved nematic tendencies  
10 and a higher ratio of the elastic constants  $k_{33}$  (bend) and  $k_{11}$  (splay) compared with alkyl or alkoxy radicals. 4-alkenyl radicals, 3-alkenyl radicals and the like generally give lower threshold voltages and smaller values of  $k_{33}/k_{11}$  compared with alkyl and alkoxy radicals.
- 15 A  $-CH_2CH_2-$  group generally results in higher values of  $k_{33}/k_{11}$  compared with a single covalent bond. Higher values of  $k_{33}/k_{11}$  facilitate, for example, flatter transmission characteristic lines in TN cells with a 90° twist (in order to achieve grey shades) and steeper transmission characteristic lines in STN, SBE and OMI cells (greater multiplexability), and vice versa.  
20
- A preferred aspect of the invention relates to liquid-crystalline media according to the invention which are present in a liquid-crystal mixture which is distinguished by a high value of the optical anisotropy  $\Delta n$ , preferably of > 0.16, in particular of > 0.20. So-called "high  $\Delta n$ " liquid-crystal mixtures of this type are used, in particular, in OCB (optical compensated birefringence), PDLC (polymer dispersed liquid crystal), TN and STN cells, in particular for achieving small layer thicknesses in TN and STN cells for shortening the response times. In these "high  $\Delta n$ " liquid-crystal mixtures, the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention  
25 comprises compounds of the formula I which contribute to increasing the optical anisotropy  $\Delta n$  besides at least one compound of the formula II. These compounds of the formula I are preferably one or more of the following compounds:  
30



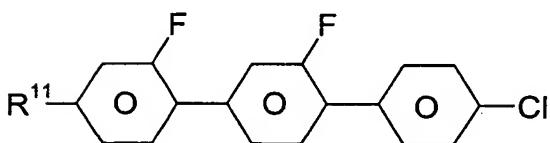
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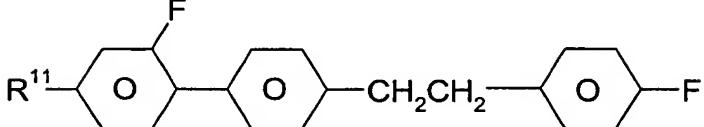
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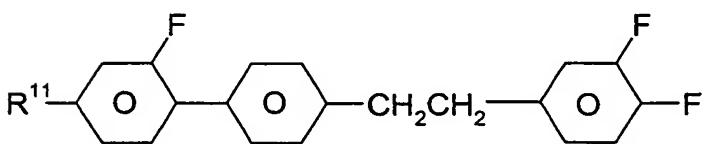
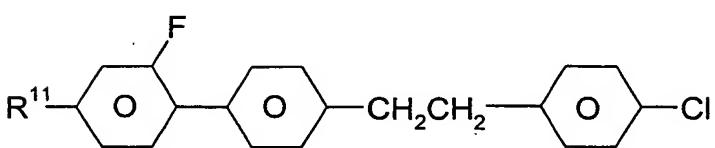
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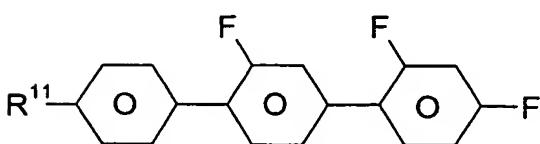
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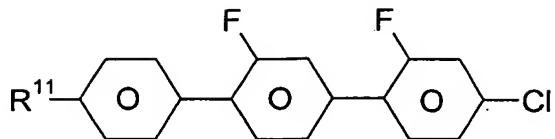
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$R^{11}$  here is as defined above for the formulae I and IA. These media according to the invention may furthermore comprise further compounds, in particular of the formulae III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI and/or XVII, if the resultant mixture has a sufficiently high value of 10 the optical anisotropy  $\Delta n$  for the preferred use as "high  $\Delta n$ " mixture.

The optimum mixing ratio of the compounds of the formulae I and II + III + IV + V + VI + VII + VIII (optionally + IX + X + XI + XII + XIII + XIV + XV + XVI + XVII) depends substantially on the desired properties, in particular 15 on the desired use, on the choice of these components and the choice of any other components that may be present. Suitable mixing ratios can easily be determined from case to case.

The total amount of compounds of the formulae I to XVII in the mixtures 20 according to the invention is not crucial. The mixtures may therefore comprise one or more further components for the purposes of optimisation of various properties.

The individual compounds of the above-mentioned formulae and sub-formulae which can be used in the media according to the invention are 25 either known or can be prepared analogously to the known compounds.

The construction of the MLC display according to the invention from polarisers, electrode base plates and surface-treated electrodes corresponds to the conventional construction for displays of this type. The term 30 conventional construction is broadly drawn here and also covers all derivatives and modifications of the MLC display, in particular including matrix display elements based on poly-Si TFT or MIM.

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A significant difference between the displays according to the invention and the conventional displays based on the twisted nematic cell consists, however, in the choice of the liquid-crystal parameters of the liquid-crystal layer.

5

Display devices can be filled with the liquid-crystal mixture comprising the liquid-crystalline medium according to the invention in a conventional manner, but in particular by the "one-drop filling method".

10

The liquid-crystal mixtures according to the invention are prepared in a manner conventional per se. In general, the desired amount of the components used in the lesser amount is dissolved in the components making up the principal constituent, advantageously at elevated temperature. It is also possible to mix solutions of the components in an organic solvent, for example in acetone, chloroform or methanol, and to remove the solvent again, for example by distillation, after thorough mixing.

15

The dielectrics may also comprise further additives known to the person skilled in the art and described in the literature. For example, 0-15% of pleochroic dyes or chiral dopants can be added.

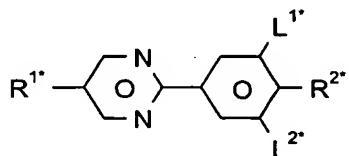
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In the present application and in the examples below, the structures of the liquid-crystal compounds are indicated by means of acronyms, the transformation into chemical formulae taking place in accordance with Tables A and B below. All radicals  $C_nH_{2n+1}$  and  $C_mH_{2m+1}$  are straight-chain alkyl radicals having n and m carbon atoms respectively; n and m are integers and are preferably 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12. The coding in Table B is self-evident. In Table A, only the acronym for the parent structure is indicated. In individual cases, the acronym for the parent structure is followed, separated by a dash, by a code for the substituents  $R^{1*}$ ,  $R^{2*}$ ,  $L^{1*}$  and  $L^{2*}$ :

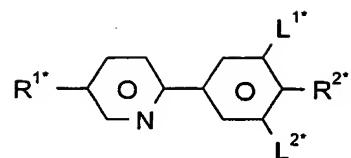
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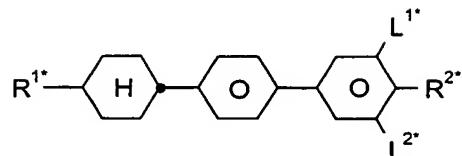
	Code for R <sup>1*</sup> , R <sup>2*</sup> , L <sup>1*</sup> , L <sup>2*</sup>	R <sup>1*</sup>	R <sup>2*</sup>	L <sup>1*</sup>	L <sup>2*</sup>
5	nm	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	C <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2m+1</sub>	H	H
	nO.m	OC <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	C <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2m+1</sub>	H	H
	nOm	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	OC <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2m+1</sub>	H	H
	n	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	CN	H	H
	nN.F	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	CN	F	H
	nN.F.F	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	CN	F	F
10	nF	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	F	H	H
	nCL	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	Cl	H	H
	nF.F	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	F	F	H
	nF.F.F	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	F	F	F
	nmF	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	C <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2m+1</sub>	F	H
15	nCF <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	CF <sub>3</sub>	H	H
	nOCF <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	OCF <sub>3</sub>	H	H
	nOCF <sub>3</sub> .F	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	OCF <sub>3</sub>	F	H
	n-Vm	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub>	-CH=CH-C <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2m+1</sub>	H	H
	nV-Vm	C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>2n+1</sub> -CH=CH-	-CH=CH-C <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2m+1</sub>	H	H
Preferred mixture components are given in Tables A and B.					

25 **Table A:**30 **PYP**

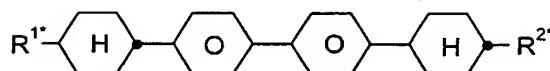
- 62 -



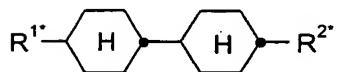
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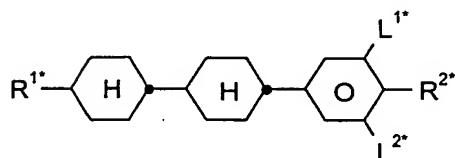
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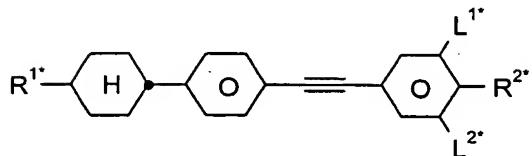
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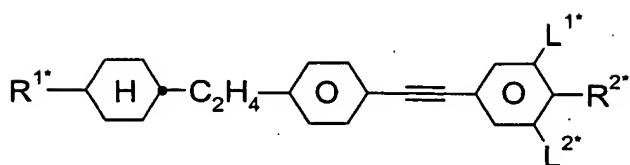
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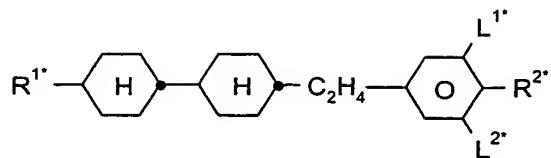
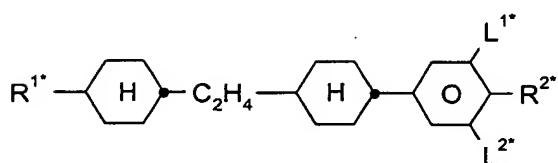
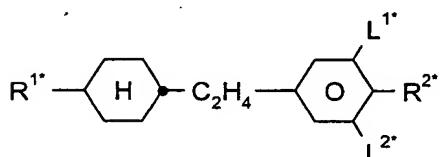
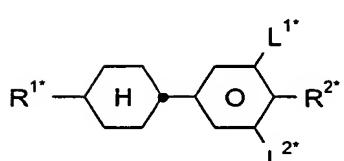
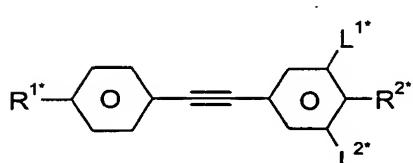
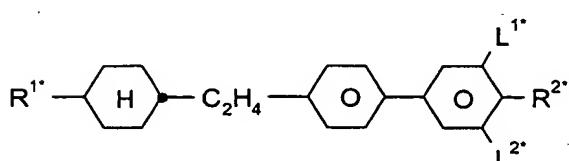


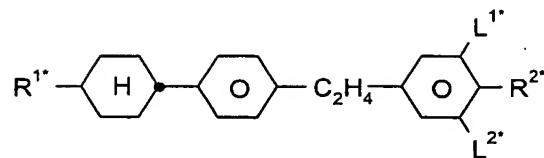
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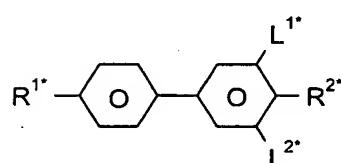
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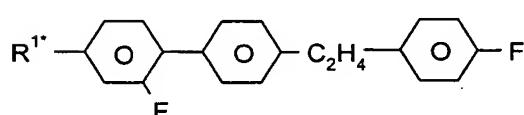
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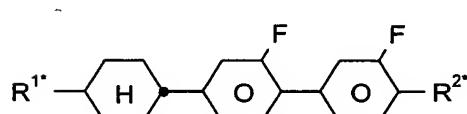
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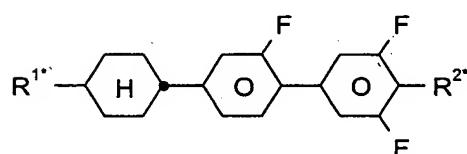
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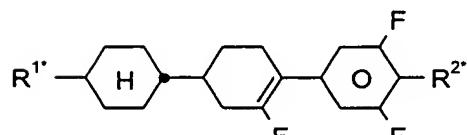
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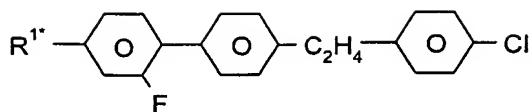


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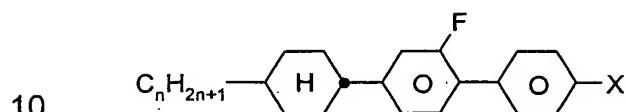
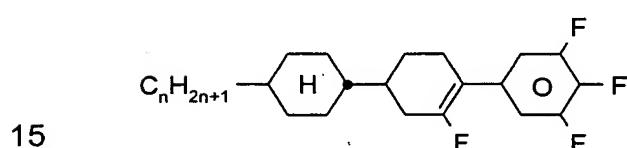
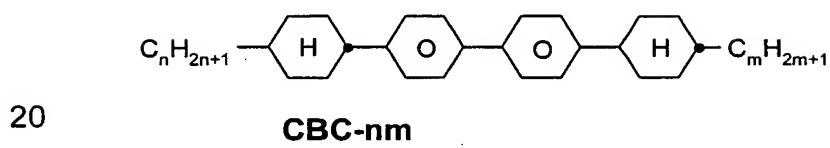
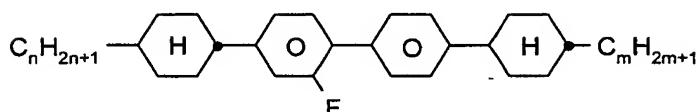
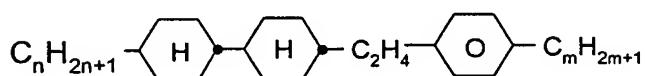
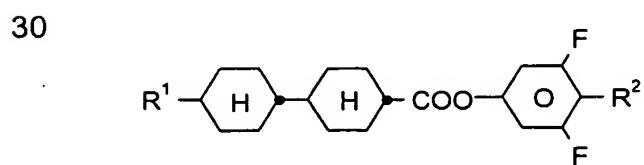


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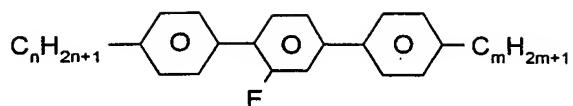
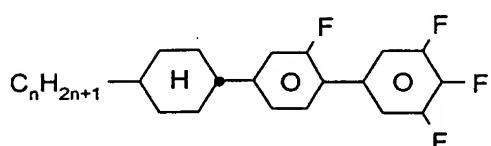


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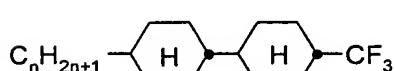
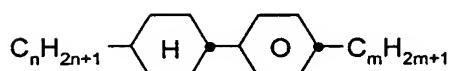
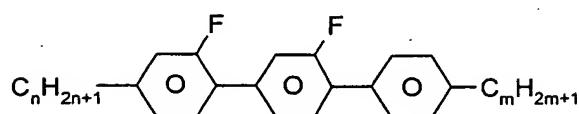
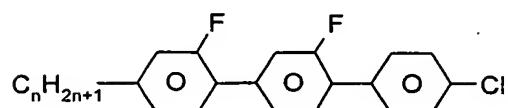
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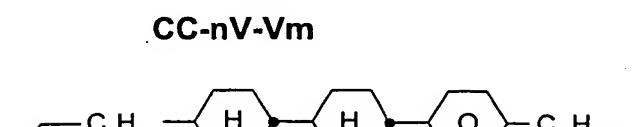
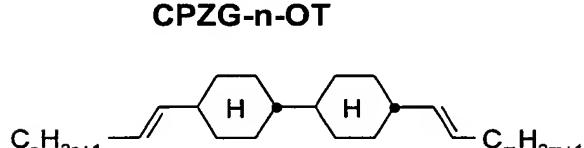
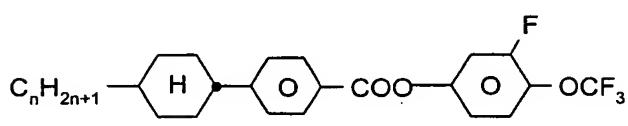
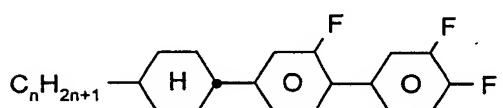
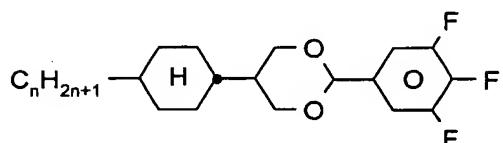
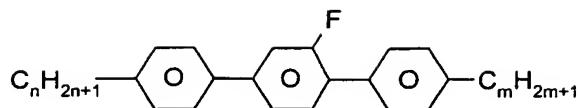
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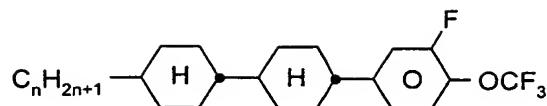
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**T-nFm**

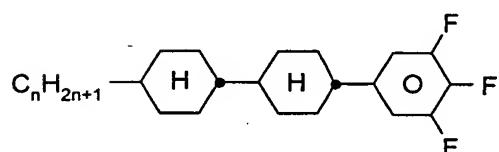
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**CGU-n-F****CCH-n-m****CCH-nCF<sub>3</sub>****PCH-n-m****GGP-n-m****GGP-n-CL**

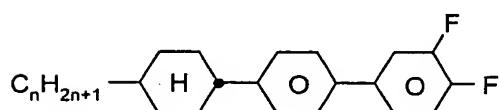


**CCP-nOCF<sub>3</sub>.F**

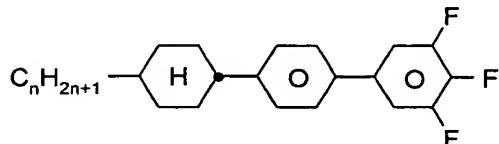
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**CCP-nF.F.F**

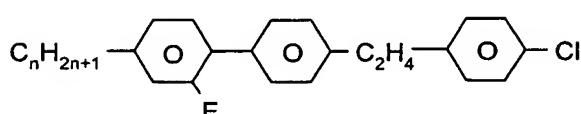
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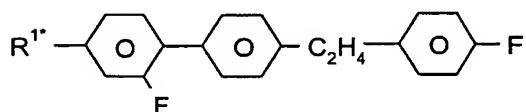
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**BCH-nF.F.F**

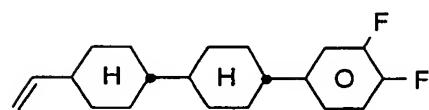
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**FET-nCL**

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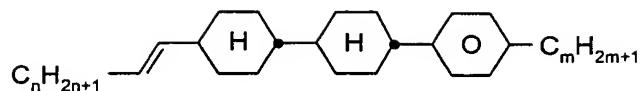
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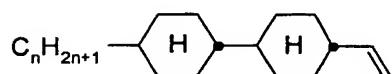
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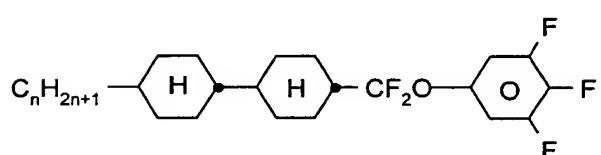
- 69 -

**CCP-nV-m**

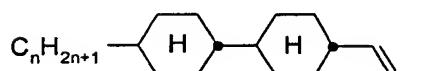
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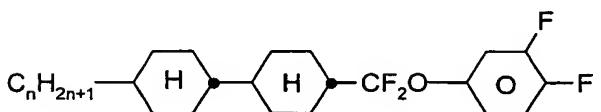
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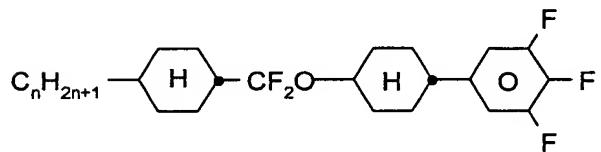
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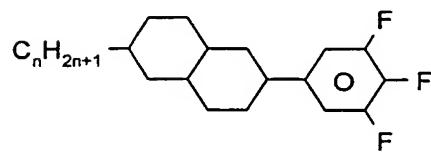
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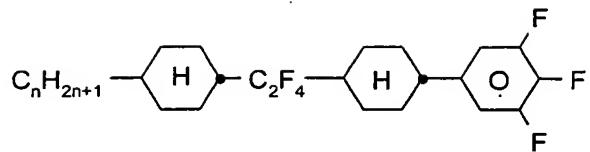
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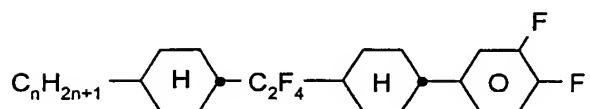
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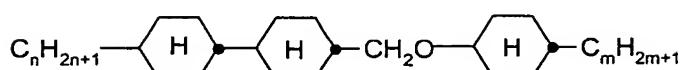
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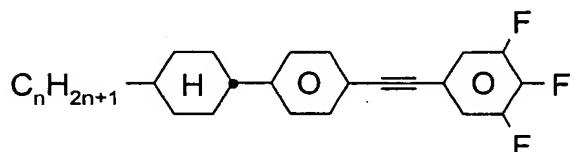
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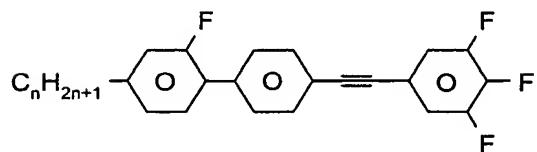
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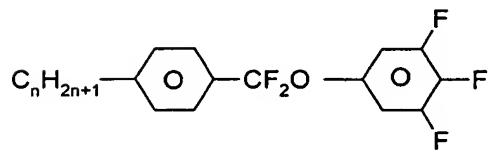
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**CCOC-n-m**

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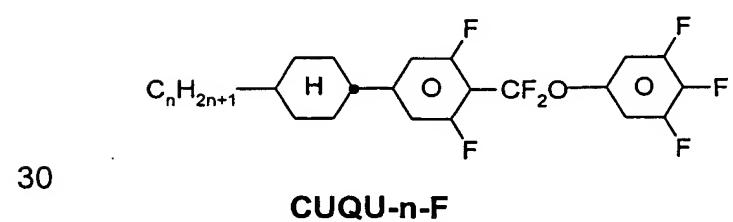
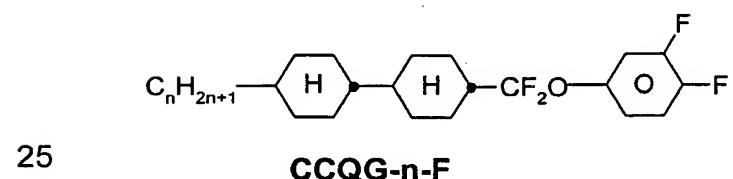
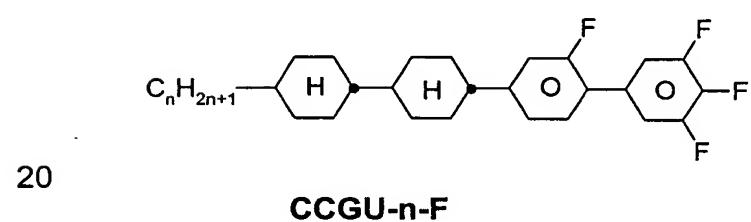
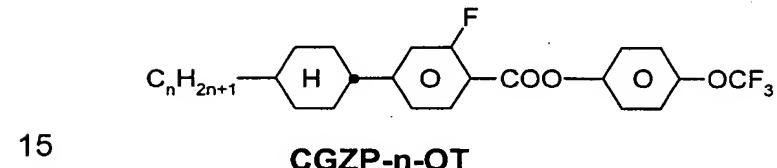
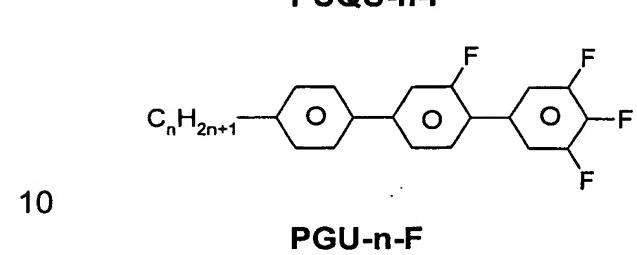
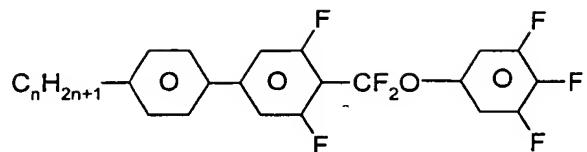
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**GPTU-n-F**

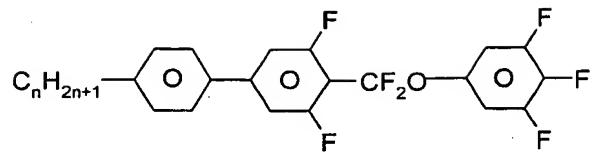
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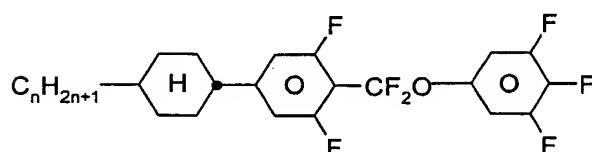
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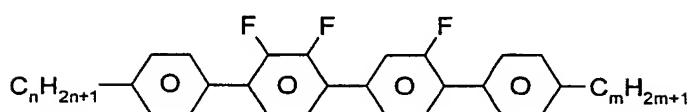
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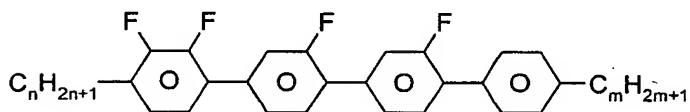
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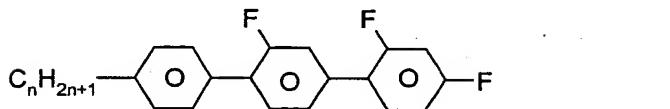
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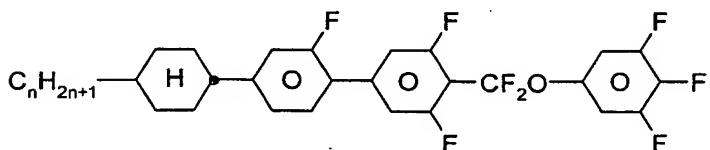
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**PYGP-n-m**

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**YGGP-n-m**

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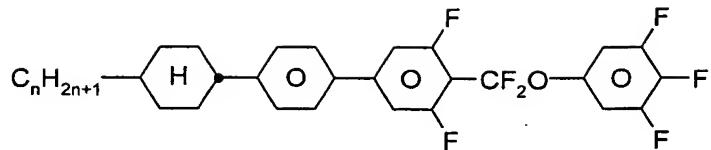
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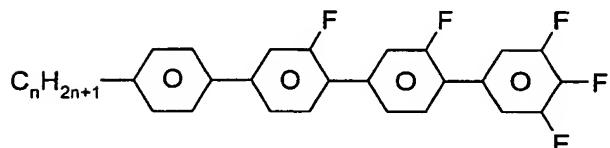
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**CPUQU-n-F**

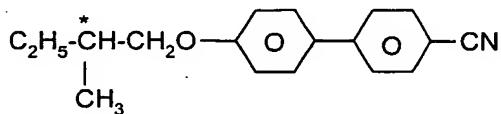
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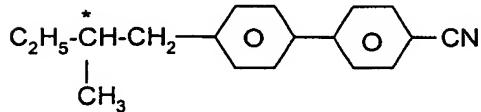
Particular preference is given to liquid-crystalline mixtures which, besides  
15 the compounds of the formula I, comprise at least one, two, three or four  
compounds from Table B.

**Table C:**

Table C shows possible dopants which are generally added to the mixtures  
20 according to the invention.



25

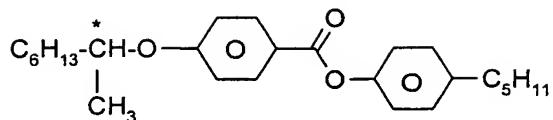
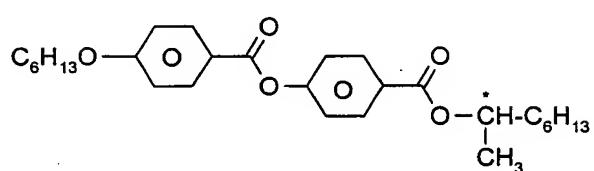
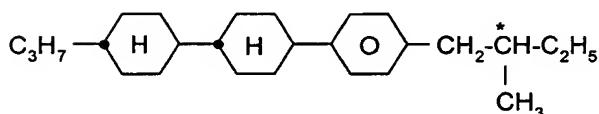
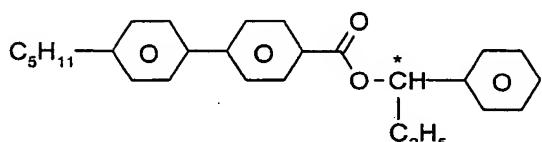
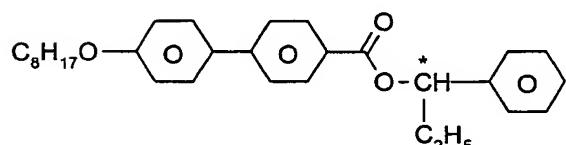
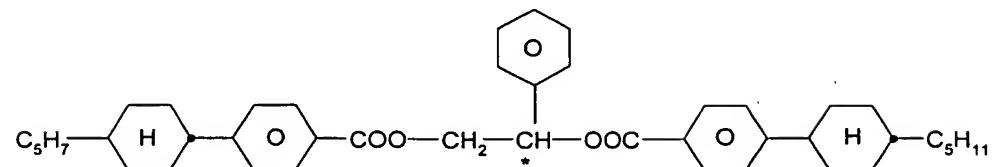
**C 15**

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**CB 15**

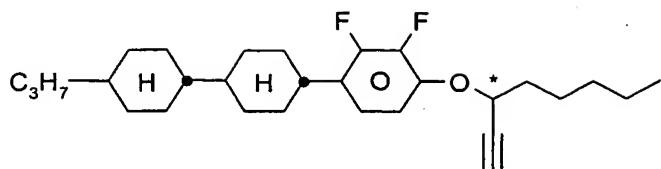
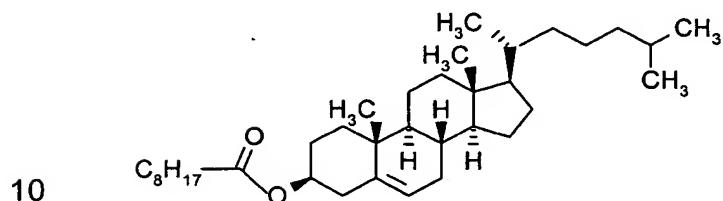
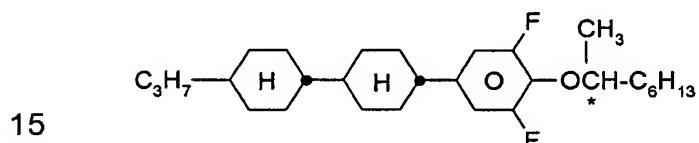
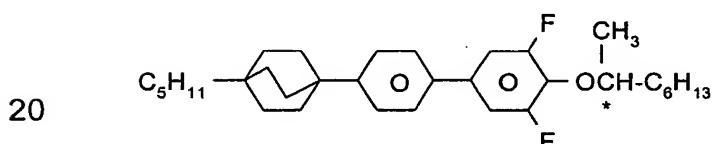
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**CM 21****R/S-811****CM 44****CM 45****CM 47****R/S-1011**

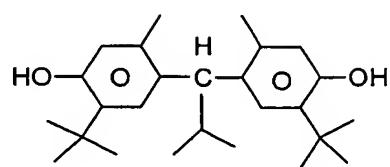
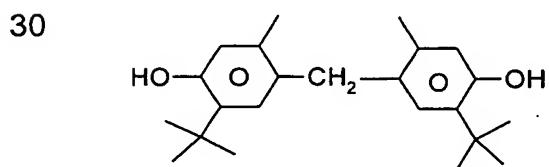
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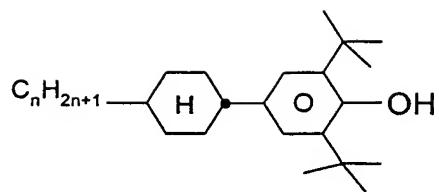
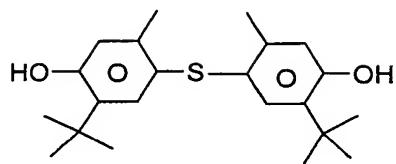
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**R/S-3011****CN****R/S-2011****R/S-4011**

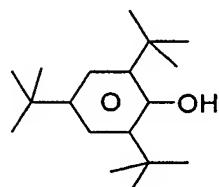
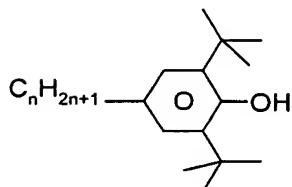
25      **Table D**

Stabilisers which can be added, for example, to the mixtures according to the invention are mentioned below.

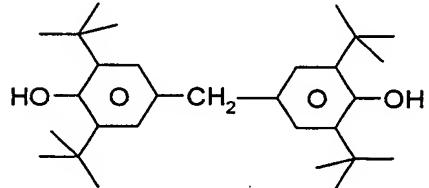
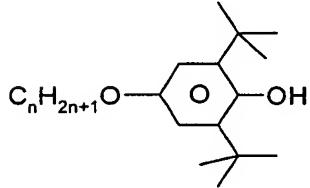




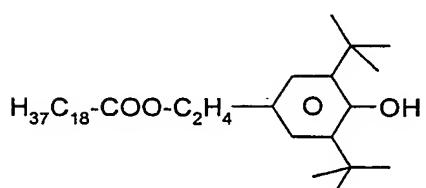
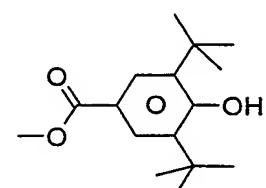
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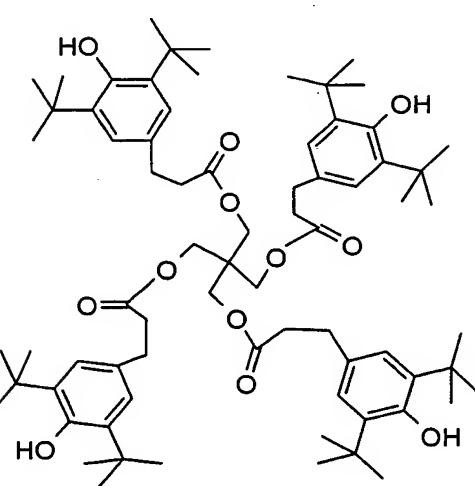
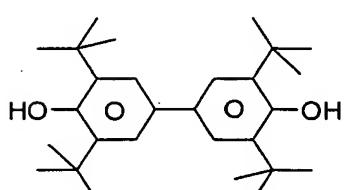
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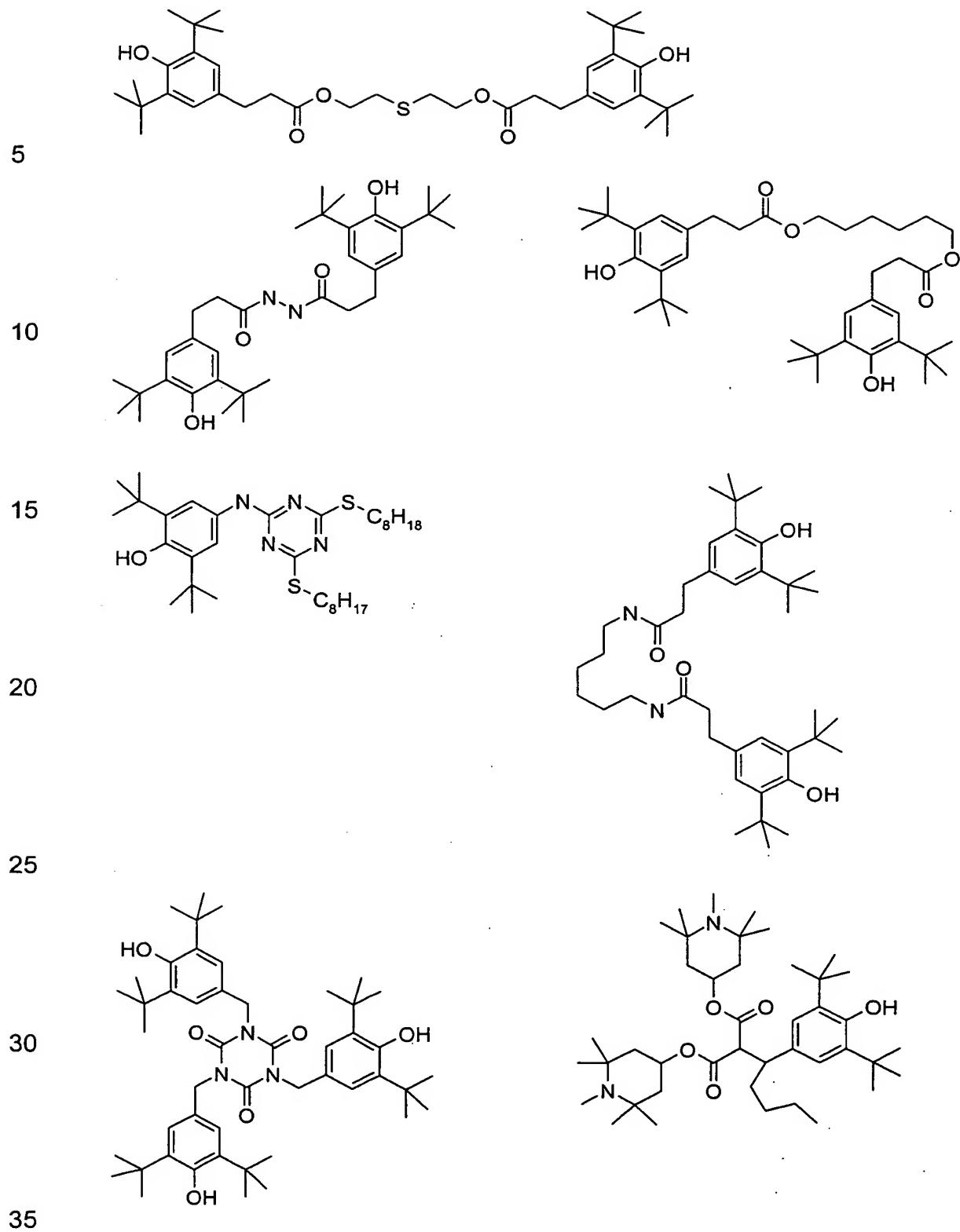


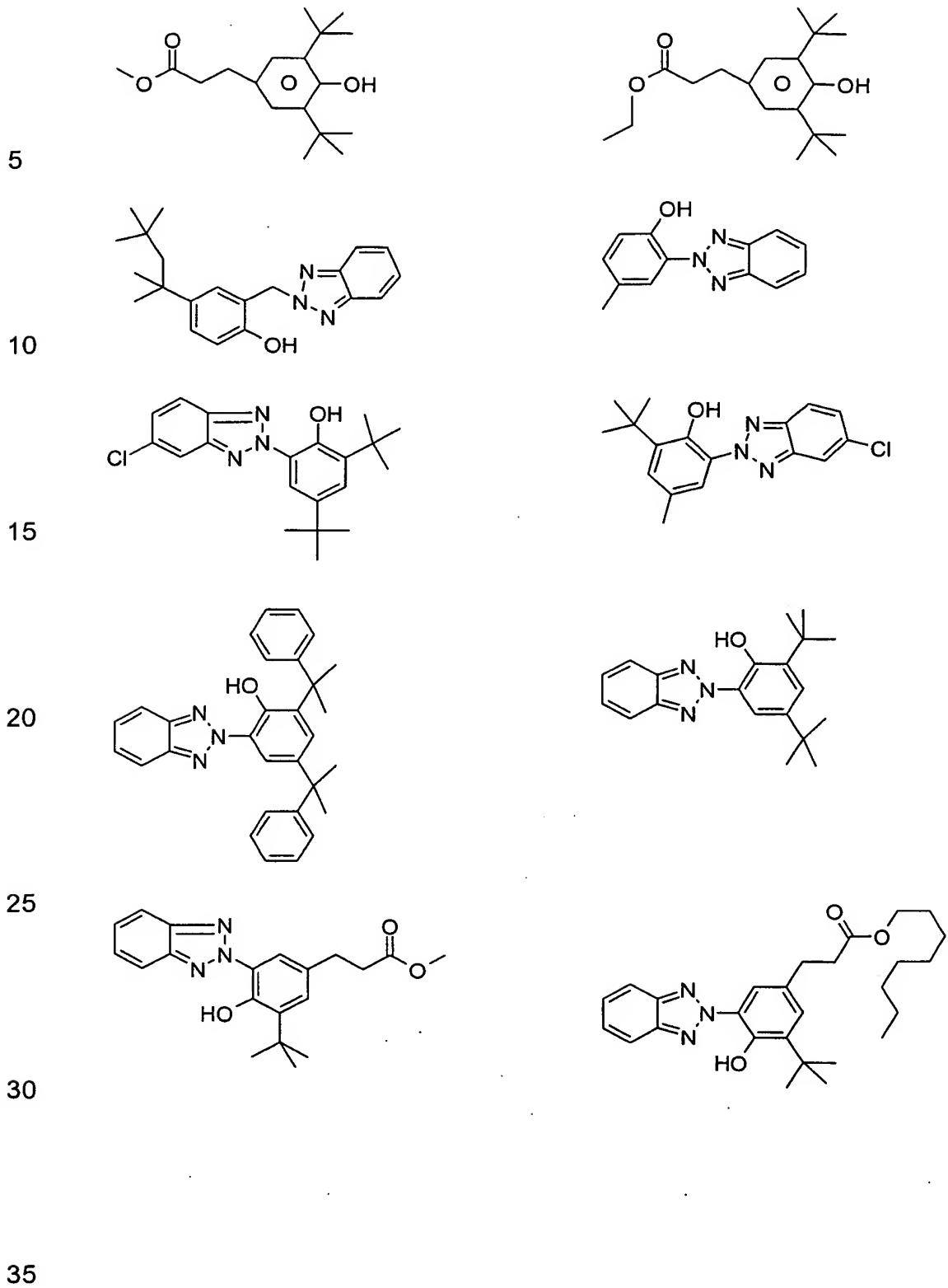
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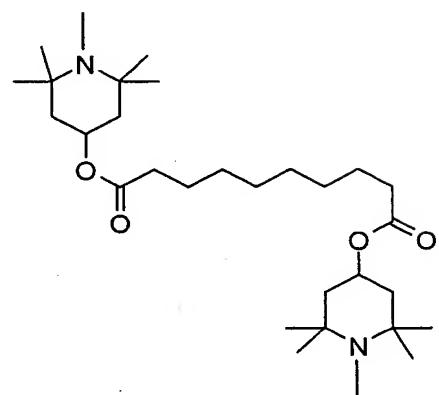
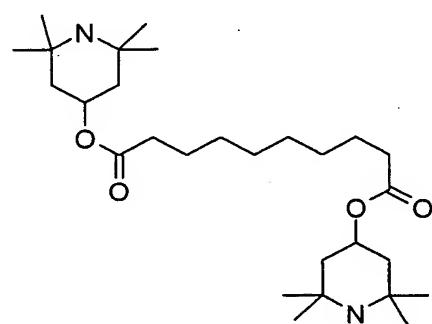
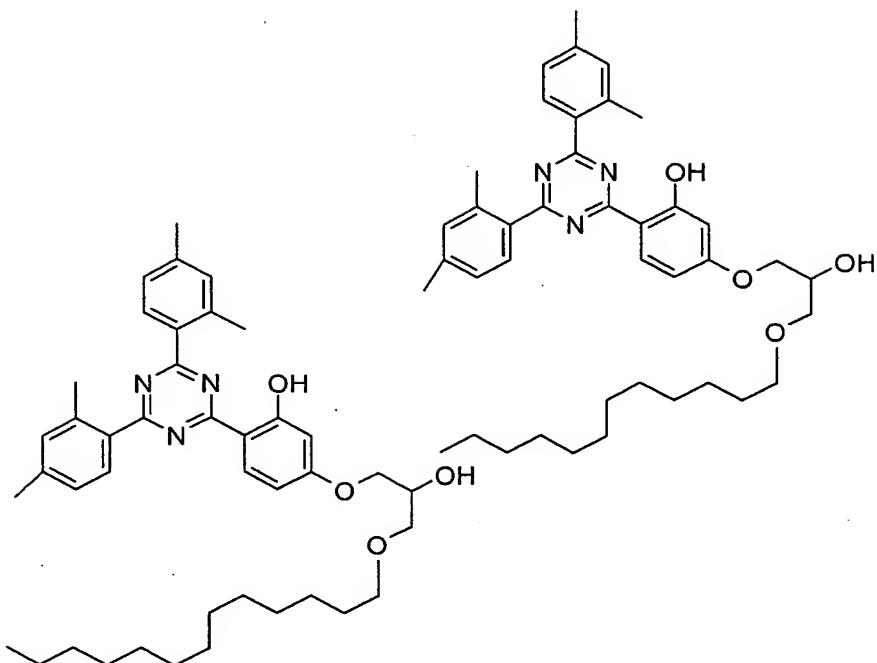
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Above and below, percentages are per cent by weight. All temperatures are given in degrees Celsius. m.p. denotes melting point, cl.p. denotes clearing point. Furthermore, C = crystalline state, N = nematic phase, S = smectic phase and I = isotropic phase.  $S_C$  denotes a smectic C phase. The data between these symbols represent the transition temperatures.  $V_{10}$  denotes the voltage for 10% transmission (viewing angle perpendicular to the plate surface).  $t_{on}$  denotes the switch-on time and  $t_{off}$  the switch-off time at an operating voltage corresponding to 2.0 times the value of  $V_{10}$ .  $\Delta n$  denotes the optical anisotropy ( $\Delta n = n_e - n_o$ , where  $n_e$  is the refractive index of the extraordinary ray and  $n_o$  is the refractive index of the ordinary ray) (589 nm, 20°C).  $\Delta \epsilon$  denotes the dielectric anisotropy ( $\Delta \epsilon = \epsilon_{||} - \epsilon_{\perp}$ , where  $\epsilon_{||}$  denotes the dielectric constant parallel to the longitudinal molecular axes and  $\epsilon_{\perp}$  denotes the dielectric constant perpendicular thereto) (1 kHz, 20°C). The electro-optical data were measured in a TN cell at the 1st minimum (i.e. at a  $d \cdot \Delta n$  value of 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) at 20°C, unless expressly stated otherwise. The optical data were measured at 20°C, unless expressly stated otherwise. The flow viscosity  $\nu_{20}$  (mm<sup>2</sup>/sec) was determined at 20°C. The rotational viscosity  $\gamma_1$  [mPa·s] was likewise determined at 20°C. SR denotes the specific resistance [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ]. The voltage holding ratio VHR was determined under thermal load at 100°C or with UV irradiation (wavelength > 300 nm; irradiation intensity 765 W/m<sup>2</sup>) for 2 hours. The physical parameters were determined experimentally as described in "Licristal, Physical Properties Of Liquid Crystals, Description of the Measurement Methods", Ed. W. Becker, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, revised edition, 1998.

The following examples are intended to explain the invention without restricting it.

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**Examples****Example 1**

a) Without a compound of the formula II: mixture M1

5	CCP-2OCF <sub>3</sub> .F	14.00%	S→N [°C]:	< -30
	CCP-2F.F.F	10.00%	Clearing point [°C]:	+85
	CCP-3F.F.F	14.00%	n <sub>e</sub> [589 nm; 20°C]:	1.5468
	CCP-5F.F.F	6.00%	n <sub>o</sub> [589 nm; 20°C]:	1.4707
	CCZU-2-F	4.00%	Δn [589 nm; 20°C]:	+0.0761
10	CCZU-3-F	17.00%	ε <sub>  </sub> [1 kHz; 20°C]:	15.3
	CCZU-5-F	4.00%	ε <sub>⊥</sub> [1 kHz; 20°C]:	4.3
	CGU-2-F	6.00%	Δε [1 kHz; 20°C]:	+11.0
	CGZP-2-OT	8.00%	VHR (100°C):	94.6
15	CCH-5CF <sub>3</sub>	8.00%	VHR (2 h UV irrad.):	92.3
	CCOC-4-3	3.00%		
	CCOC-3-3	3.00%		
	CCOC-3-5	3.00%		

20 b) With a compound of the formula II:

Various amounts of a compound of the formula II were added to the above mixture M1, and the VHR was determined after UV irradiation for 2 hours:

Mixture	VHR (2 h UV irradiation) [%]
M1 without a compound of the formula II	92.3
M1 + 0.60% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	94.7
M1 + 0.62% by wt. of YGGP-4-3	94.9
M1 + 0.69% by wt. of PYGP-4-4	95.0

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**Example 2**

a) Without a compound of the formula II: mixture M2

5	GGP-3-CL	9.00%	S→N [°C]:	< -20
	GGP-5-CL	24.00%	Clearing point [°C]:	+100
	PGIGI-3-F	4.00%	n <sub>e</sub> [589 nm; 20°C]:	1.7162
	BCH-3F.F	4.00%	n <sub>o</sub> [589 nm; 20°C]:	1.5161
	BCH-5F.F	5.00%	Δn [589 nm; 20°C]:	+0.2001
10	BCH-3F.F.F	9.00%	ε <sub>  </sub> [1 kHz; 20°C]:	16.9
	BCH-5F.F.F	10.00%	ε <sub>⊥</sub> [1 kHz; 20°C]:	4.6
	CBC-33F	3.00%	Δε [1 kHz; 20°C]:	+12.3
	CBC-53F	4.00%	k <sub>1</sub> [pN]:	14.5
	CCG-V-F	6.00%	k <sub>3</sub> [pN]:	15.3
15	PGU-2-F	6.00%	k <sub>3</sub> /k <sub>1</sub> :	1.05
	PGU-3-F	7.00%	γ <sub>1</sub> [mPa·s; 20°C]:	327
	FET-2CL	5.00%	V <sub>10</sub> [V]:	1.15
	FET-3CL	4.00%		

b) With a compound of the formula II:

Various amounts of a compound of the formula II were added to the above mixture M2, and the VHR was determined after UV irradiation for 2 hours:

Mixture	VHR (2 h UV irradiation) [%]
M2 without a compound of the formula II	96.0
M2 + 0.53% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	97.1
M2 + 0.99% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	97.5
M2 + 1.51% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	97.6
M2 + 1.98% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	97.3

**Example 3**

a) Without a compound of the formula II: mixture M3

5	CC-5-V	10.00%	Clearing point [°C]:	+55
	PCH-53	30.00%	$n_e$ [589 nm; 20°C]:	1.5545
	CCP-2F.F.F	15.00%	$n_o$ [589 nm; 20°C]:	1.4837
	CCP-3F.F.F	15.00%	$\Delta n$ [589 nm; 20°C]:	+0.0708
	CCP-5F.F.F	10.00%	$\epsilon_{\parallel}$ [1 kHz; 20°C]:	6.8
10	CCP-31	10.00%	$\epsilon_{\perp}$ [1 kHz; 20°C]:	3.0
	CCG-V-F	10.00%	$\Delta \epsilon$ [1 kHz; 20°C]:	+3.8

b) With a compound of the formula II:

20% by weight of PUQU-3-F (= mixture M3A) and various amounts of a compound of the formula II were added to the above mixture M3, and the VHR was determined after UV irradiation for 2 hours:

Mixture	VHR (2 h UV irradiation) [%]
M3A without a compound of the formula II	94.2
M3 + 0.5% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	96.4
M3 + 1.0% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	96.4

Furthermore, the specific resistance SR of mixture M3A without and with addition of a compound of the formula II was determined in a glass cell after UV irradiation:

Mixture	SR [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ] after 0 h	SR [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ] after 10 h	SR [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ] after 50 h
M3A without a compound of the formula II	$3.5 \cdot 10^{14}$	$2 \cdot 10^{13}$	$4 \cdot 10^{10}$
M3A + 0.5% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	$1.0 \cdot 10^{14}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{14}$	$6 \cdot 10^{12}$
M3A + 1.0% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	$1.0 \cdot 10^{14}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{14}$	$3 \cdot 10^{13}$
M3A + 1.0% by wt. of PGP-2-2	$1.3 \cdot 10^{14}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^{14}$	$2.5 \cdot 10^{12}$
M3A + 1.0% by wt. of GGP-5-3	$2.5 \cdot 10^{14}$	$7 \cdot 10^{13}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{12}$

**Example 4**

20 a) Without a compound of the formula II: mixture M4

5	CCH-35	3.00%	
	CC-3-V1	4.00%	Clearing point [°C]: +84
	CCP-1F.F.F	10.00%	$n_e$ [589 nm; 20°C]: 1.5672
	CCP-2F.F.F	8.00%	$n_o$ [589 nm; 20°C]: 1.4745
	CCP-3F.F.F	9.00%	$\Delta n$ [589 nm; 20°C]: +0.0927
10	CCP-2OCF3.F	12.00%	$\epsilon_{\parallel}$ [1 kHz; 20°C]: 15.4
	CCP-2OCF3	8.00%	$\epsilon_{\perp}$ [1 kHz; 20°C]: 4.0
	CCP-3OCF3	8.00%	$\Delta \epsilon$ [1 kHz; 20°C]: +11.5
	CCP-4OCF3	5.00%	$\gamma_1$ [mPa·s; 20°C]: 132
	CCP-5OCF3	7.00%	
15	PUQU-2-F	6.00%	
	PUQU-3-F	9.50%	
	CGU-2-F	3.50%	
	CCGU-3-F	5.00%	
	CBC-33	2.00%	

20 b) With a compound of the formula II:

Various amounts of a compound of the formula II were added to the above mixture M4, and the VHR was determined after UV irradiation for 2 hours:

25	Mixture	VHR (2 h UV irradiation) [%]
	M4 without a compound of the formula II	95.8
	M4 + 0.5% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	96.6
30	M4 + 1.0% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	97.2

Furthermore, the specific resistance SR of mixture M4 without and with addition of a compound of the formula II was determined in a glass cell after UV irradiation:

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Mixture	SR [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ] after 0 h	SR [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ] after 10 h	SR [ $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ] after 50 h
M4 without a compound of the formula II	$1.0 \cdot 10^{14}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^{13}$	$3 \cdot 10^{10}$
M4 + 0.5% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	$1.3 \cdot 10^{14}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{14}$	$2 \cdot 10^{13}$
M4 + 1.0% by wt. of PYGP-4-3	$2.0 \cdot 10^{14}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{14}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{14}$

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